Tanong ng Bayan / A22
One-woman policy: Uubra ba sa machong Pinoy?
WIN A 21" TV! TEXT 2910

■ Across / A18
Davao Chinoy traders welcome vigilantes

■ Sports / A26
No rematch for Pacquiao-Marquez until next year

■ Magazine / Q1
This nurse is going places but not to US, London

■ Lifestyle / E1
Quezon's old houses memorials to romance and history

Countries that regulate least succeed best

By Peter Wallace
President, Wallace Business Forum

COMMENTARY

THE WORLD Bank has done some excellent work linking excessive government intervention to slow economic growth. It shows quite conclusively that countries that regulate least, succeed best.

In other words: KISS (Keep It Simple, Stupid.)

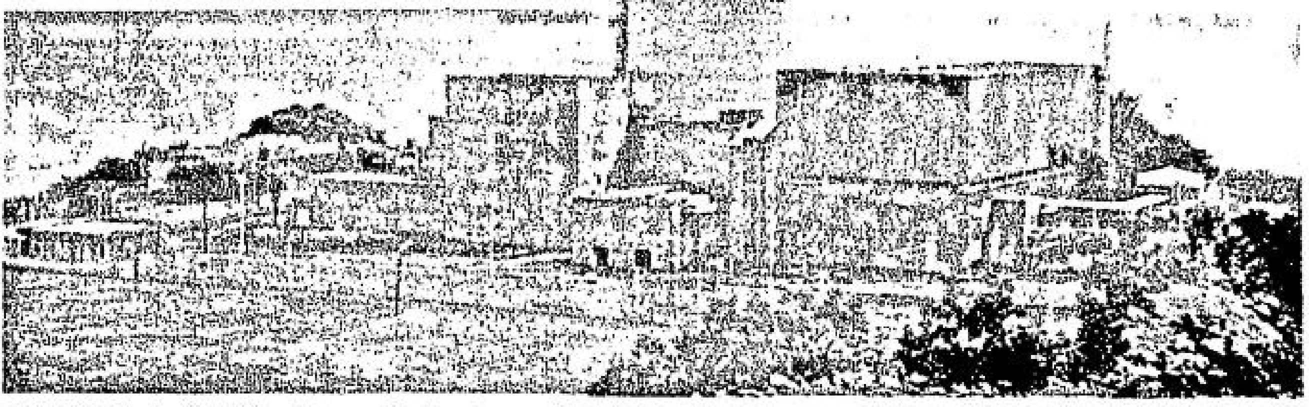
For example: In Bolivia, one of the most heavily regulated economies in the world, an estimated 82 percent of business activity takes place in the informal sector. There, workers enjoy no social benefits and cannot use pension plans and school funds for their children. Businesses do not pay taxes, reducing the resources for the delivery of basic infrastructure. There is no quality control for products. And entrepreneurs, fearful of inspectors and the police, keep operations below efficient production size.

It takes two days to start a business in Australia, but 215 in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Guess which country is doing better.

COUNTRIES/ A5

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER Sunday
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

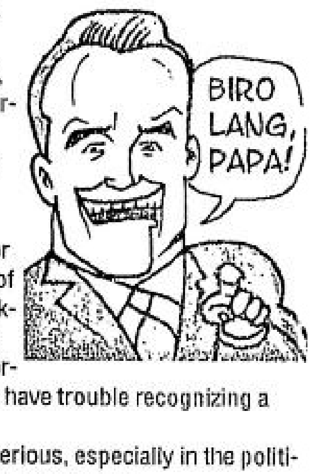
Sunday, August 8, 2004 ★★ ~~86~~ 94 pages / 10 [illegible] / vol. 19 / no. 242 P18



TONETTE TOREJAS/PDI CENTRAL LUZON DESK

THERE it is, the $2-billion Bataan Nuclear Power Plant in Morong, Bataan, serenely idle for the past 20 years, shrouded in the mist of corruption, heavy with debt that costs the Filipinos $155,000 daily until 2018.

Schwarzenegger gets flak for 'girlie men' joke



BIRO LANG, PAPA!

BURBANK, California—Hey "girlie men," It was a joke, Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger said.

Speaking Friday on "The Tonight Show with Jay Leno," the governor said his put-down of Democratic lawmakers last month was blown out of proportion by people who have trouble recognizing a dash of humor.

"People are so serious, especially in the political arena," Schwarzenegger said.

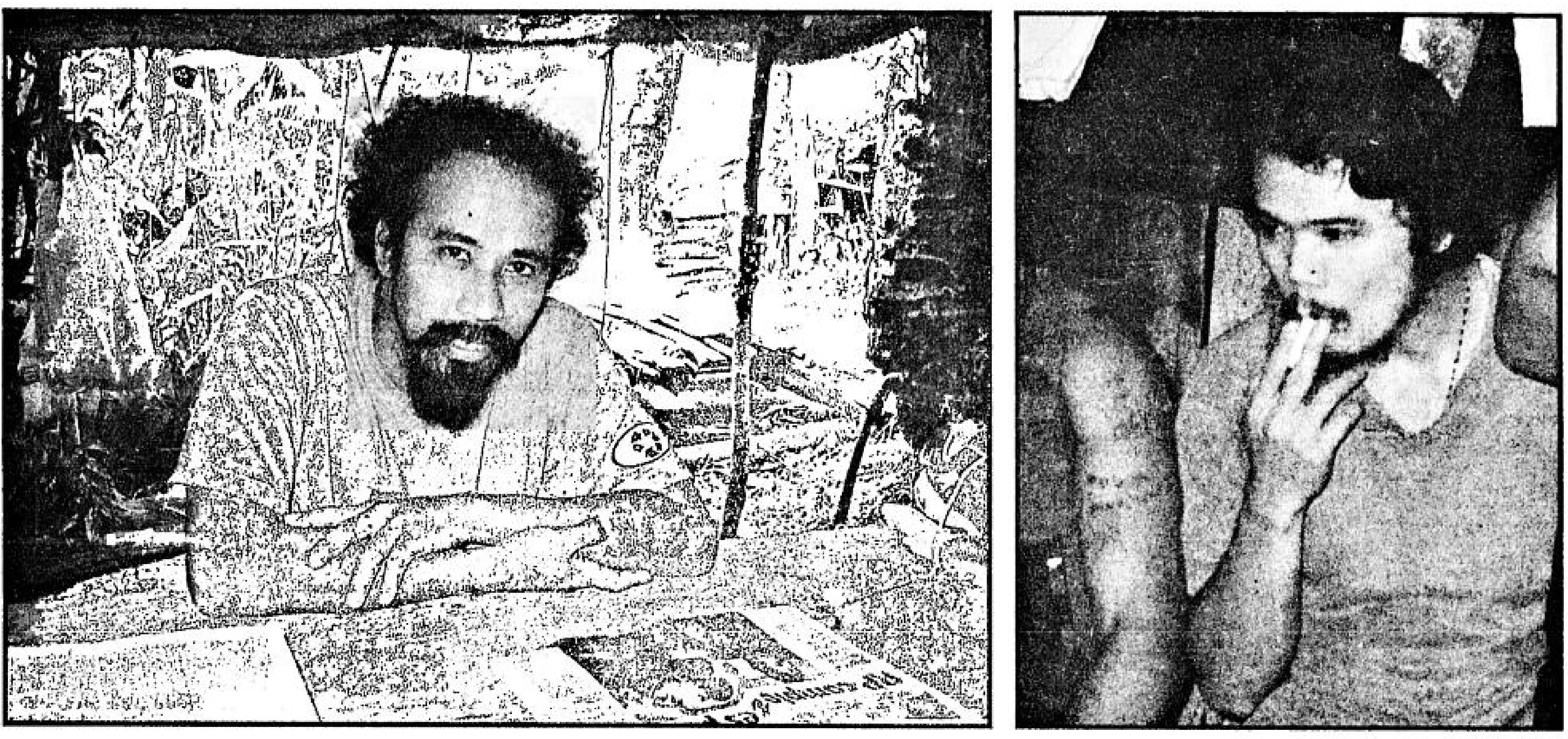
"Everything is interpreted, you know, attacking gay people and lesbians and all this stuff. I didn't even think about that. It was a joke," he said.

Democrats in Sacramento weren't amused when the Republican governor, in the midst of a deadlock in budget negotiations last month, mocked them as gutless "girlie men" unable to break away from trial lawyers, unions and other

ARNOLD / A22

Beware of 'Marcos folly'

GMA plan to convert Bataan plant to gas power draws fire



JUAN ESCANDOR JR./PDI SOUTHERN LUZON BUREAU

VOWING neither to shave nor cut his hair until the day he's released, Lt. Ronaldo Fidelino (above) sports a five-month old worth of a barber's scissors. (At right) Private First Class Ronel Nemeño takes a puff before rendering a song, "All My Life," during the cultural program presented by their NPA captors at an undisclosed NPA camp. Fidelino sang "Farewell, My Friend." Both hostages say their abductors are treating them well but they can hardly wait to get out of there.

By Michael Lim Ubac and Fe Zamora

WHY RESURRECT a dictator's monument to folly?

Hardly off the ground, President Macapagal-Arroyo's plan to convert the mothballed Bataan Nuclear Power Plant (BNPP) into a gas-fired utility is already drawing fire from politicians, some businessmen and a militant left-wing leader.

To Sen. Joker Arroyo, Malacañang's proposed solution to the power crisis looming over the country is nothing less than a cross-eyed idea.

"The President should not fall for the propaganda line being peddled by Napocor [National Power Corp.] and energy officials who have shouted 'eureka!' as if they have made a discovery," Arroyo told the INQUIRER in a phone interview. "It's a rehash, Madame President."

Built in 1984 at a cost of more than $2 billion, the nuclear plant in Morong was "a monument to [the late Ferdinand] Marcos' folly and corruption," Arroyo said.

"The civil works of the BNPP complex ...was designed to house and operate a nuclear power reactor, which is entirely different from power plants fired by various kinds of fuel," he stressed in a separate statement.

Arroyo recalled that the idea of converting the BNPP into a gas power plant had been proposed before but never took off.

"[It] had been deceptively dangled by energy and National Power Corp. officials to every President of the Philippines after Mr. Marcos whenever there was a power crisis."

Arroyo claimed refitting the BNPP was only a "diversionary move" by Energy

BEWARE/ A22

Two captive soldiers are grateful to NPA rebels

By Juan Escandor Jr.,
PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

LEGAZPI CITY—Despite the anxiety and uncertainty of their situation, the two Army soldiers who are being held as prisoners of war by the communist New People's Army are grateful that they are still alive.

Under the watchful eyes of their captors, Lt. Ronaldo Fidelino (not Fedelino as previously reported) and Pfc. Ronel Nemeño (not Lemeño or Nemeno) enjoy relative freedom of movement in the NPA camp where they are being held, without shackles and handcuffs.

There are no bars or walls to hold them back. They could be observed bantering, laughing, singing and even exchanging ideas with their captors.

Fidelino even thanked his captors when he was asked to give a short message during a cultural program at the NPA camp where this reporter went to interview the two soldiers.

"I openly express my gratitude to the comrades for taking care of us and treating us well. We feel your care and our families will know of this," he said in Filipino.

For the sake of their families, however, he said he hoped he and Nemeño would be released soon.

He also sang a song titled "Farewell, My Friend" to the assembly.

Ka Russel, the head of the rebel custodian force, said the trial of the two soldiers under the "revolutionary justice system" was being shelved and they would be released on humanitarian grounds.

He said they were just waiting for the government to fulfill the condition for the release: The suspension of all military offensive operations in Camarines Sur and Albay.

Russel said the NPA allowed the two captive soldiers to answer in writing all the charges against them. They had decided to put on record the documents that contained their detailed answers to

TWO CAPTIVE/ A21

SEPARATE BEDS

Carl, Clarence healing as mom settles down

NOT UNTIL she learned that her twins had been successfully separated did Arlene Aguirre finally bring herself to enjoy the Ilonggo delicacies of *piaya*, *pinasugbo* and *otap* that were her birthday presents from home. She turns 32 on Aug. 29.

Arlene had been unable to eat before and during the surgery. Her stomach kept churning from tension.

Two days after Arlene's twins, Carl and Clarence, underwent 17 hours of delicate neuro and plastic surgery resulting in their separation at The Children's Hospital at Montefiore (Cham), in New York, the two are healing and doing "really well."

The brothers are resting in separate beds in their shared room and Arlene and grandmother Evelyn (Nanay Belen) "are peeking in from time to time just to enjoy the sight of them doing so well," said Dr. Robert Marion, the boys' pediatrician for the last 11 months at Cham.

"I'm very happy and excited to see them sleeping in separate beds. I can't wait to see them facing each other, to see their reactions," said Arlene.

"I thank everyone who is praying for the boys and e-mailing me their support and prayers," she said.

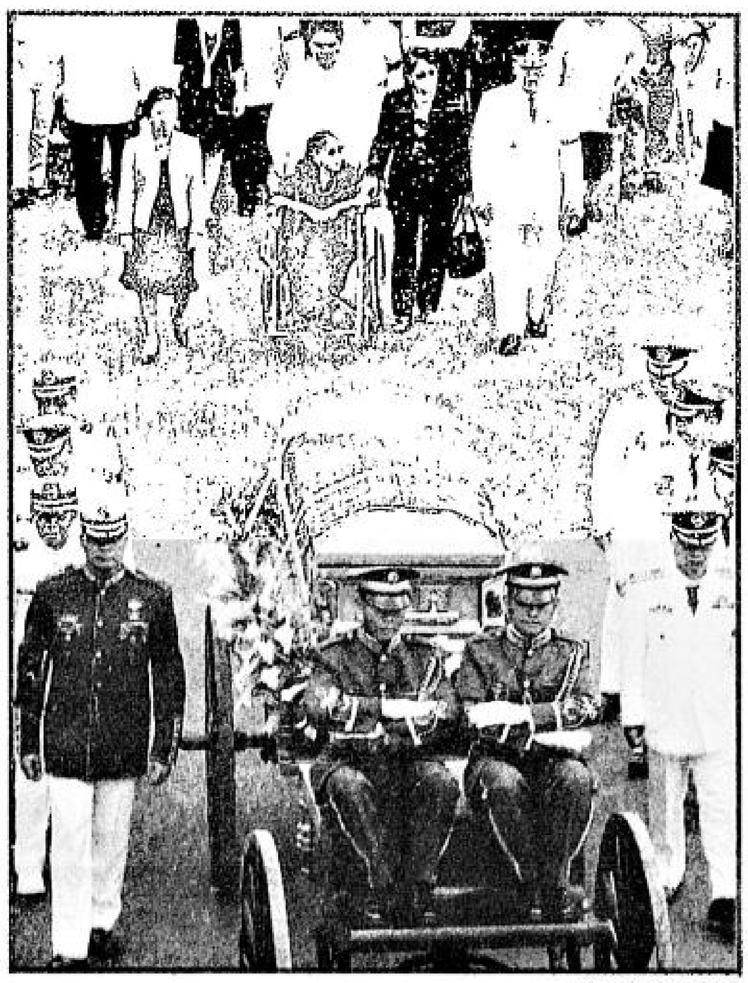
The team of doctors, nurses and other specialists caring for the boys is very pleased with the way they are recuperating, according to a bulletin from Cham on Friday.

"Knowing Carl and Clarence as we do, we want to keep them under some sedation to prevent them from moving around too much," said Marion.

"Earlier today their sedation began to wear off slightly, and I saw Clarence making a few shakes with his favorite maraca, as Carl started wiggling around in his own bed across the room," said Marion.

The boys will be kept under some se-

CARL/ A5



JIM GUIAO PUNZALAN

LAST RIDE
The state honors former senator and legal luminary Arturo Tolentino, one of the last of the Old Guard politicians at his funeral on Saturday at the Libingan ng Mga Bayani in Fort Bonifacio. The family led by his widow, Constancia (in wheelchair), follows the hearse. *(Story on Page A2.)*

Bingbong: A journey from behind bars to Congress

By Cynthia D. Balana

HE WAS convicted of arson for burning down two villages in Ilocos Sur in 1970. Without money, friends or political connections, he languished in prison from 1976 to 1981.

One day, he broke down and experienced what he said was a 180-degree conversion.

"With God, nothing is impossible," 57-year-old Rep. Vincent "Bingbong" Crisologo, a neophyte member of the House of Representatives, told the INQUIRER, recounting his journey from hell and back.

"There is no authority that exists without the will of God."

Looking back, Crisologo sounded like a man now at peace with himself. He said he had learned to forgive those responsible for his ugly past, an issue his detractors seemed to enjoy digging up.

"I have forgotten that incident and I have forgiven. That is the reason perhaps that I was able to search on. If you don't

BINGBONG/ A21

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Northeastern Luzon will have rains and gusty winds with moderate to rough seas. The rest of Luzon and Visayas will have occasional rains becoming more frequent over the western sections. Mindanao will be cloudy with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms
SOURCE: PAGASA

COMPILED BY: CHONA GALANG PDI RESEARCH/08/08/04

Second FRONT PAGE
E-mail: pr_news@inquirer.com.ph
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Metro Manila	Cloudy with Rains	Iloilo/Bacolod	Occasional Rains
Baguio	Occasional Rains	Roxas	Occasional Rains
Tuguegarao	Occasional Rains	Cebu	Occasional Rains
Laoag	Occasional Rains	Tacloban	Occasional Rains
Clark Zone	Occasional Rains	Gen. Santos	Cloudy with Rains
Tagaytay	Cloudy with Rains	Zamboanga	Cloudy with Rains
Legazpi	Occasional Rains	Cagayan de Oro	Cloudy with Rains
Calapan	Occasional Rains	Davao	Cloudy with Rains

High court breaks phone monopoly

By Philip C. Tubeza

THE SUPREME Court has upheld the decision of the National Telecommunications Commission allowing Bayan Telecommunications Corp. (Bayantel) to operate in Manila and Navotas although the NTC had earlier authorized another telecom firm to operate in the same areas.

In its 20-page decision, the high court's Second Division rejected the bid of Telecommunications Technologies Philippines Inc. (TTPI), which had earlier been given provisional authority to operate in these areas, to stop Bayantel from operating in its franchise areas.

The high court said the NTC did not commit grave abuse of discretion when it allowed Bayantel to operate in areas already assigned to TTPI.

In its ruling, the high court said that a telephone company's franchise to operate in a certain area was not exclusive.

"More than anything else, public service should be the primordial objective of local exchange operators. The entry of another provider in areas covered by TTPI should pose as a challenge for it to improve its quality of service, Ultimately, it will be the public that will benefit," said the high court ruling penned by Associate Justice Ma. Alicia Austria-Martinez.

The high tribunal, however, ordered Bayantel to deposit in escrow with a reputable bank 20 percent of its investment requirements to ensure that it had the money to defray expenditures for its project for the first two years.

Bayantel, a telecom firm owned by the Lopez family, was also required to post a performance bond to compensate the government for any damage should it fail to complete the project.

Court records showed that the NTC granted TTPI, an affiliate of Eastern Telecommunications Philippines Inc., the provisional authority to operate in Manila and Navotas on Sept. 25, 1996.

But before TTPI was able to accomplish its rollout obligation, the NTC on Nov. 10, 1997, granted Bayantel the authority to operate in the same areas.

TTPI went to the Court of Appeals to overturn NTC's decision but the appellate court dismissed its petition on April 30, 1998. TTPI then went to the Supreme Court.

The high court said the Department of Transportation and Communication's Service Area Scheme adopted in 1991—which provides for the NTC to delineate local exchange areas and to authorize only one carrier to operate in such areas—was no longer binding since this was "noticeably omitted" from the Public Telecommunications Policy Act of 1995 and Executive Order No. 109 in 1993.

The two laws adopted a "policy of healthy competition" among local exchange providers.

"One of the national policies and objectives of the (Public Telecommunications Act) is to foster the improvement and expansion of telecommunications services in the country through a healthy competitive environment, in which telecommunications carriers are free to make business decisions and to interact with one another in providing telecommunications services, with the end in view of encouraging their financial viability while maintaining affordable costs," the high tribunal said.

Envoy, traders say effect of RP pullout minimal

By Norman Bordadora and Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

THE FALLOUT from the country's ouster from the Coalition of the Willing in Iraq would be minimal, if any, a diplomat told reporters yesterday.

The Philippines' two concerns—its image abroad and the availability of job opportunities for its workers in the rebuilding of Iraq—will take care of themselves, if former Ambassador to Iraq Reynaldo Parungao is correct.

"Filipinos have enough goodwill to qualify for the jobs (in Iraq). We are multi-lingual, we are English-speaking," Parungao said at a weekly breakfast forum in Quezon City yesterday.

Parungao said the relative affordability of skilled Filipino workers would be quite hard for foreign companies to pass up when taking up projects in Iraq.

"There would be no impact.... Much of the work (in the rebuilding of Iraq) is sub-contracted anyway. They [events] may influence (US and British) companies but when it comes to (hiring) specific workers, (the pressure) would be minimal," Parungao said.

As for the Philippines' image in the international community, the diplomat said the country could be proud of its decision to pull its 51-man humanitarian contingent out of Iraq.

"There is no more legal and moral basis to stay (in Iraq).... There are no weapons of mass destruction," Parungao said. "We can always face the world with heads held high."

Parungao said it was about time the Philippines learned the art of brinkmanship on the international stage, especially since it is a strategic country that the US can't simply brush aside.

"We have to consider the quid pro quos.... We shouldn't always just follow the US," he said.

Filipino businessmen apparently feel the same way.

They believe that American and other foreign contractors would still turn to Filipinos for their manpower requirements in rebuilding Iraq.

In an interview, Philippine Constructors Association executive director Manolito Madrasto said the Philippines' ouster from the Coalition of the Willing "really does not matter much."

White House spokesperson Richard Boucher had said the Philippines was dropped from the coalition after it gave in to Iraq kidnappers' demands to pull out of Iraq.

"The reconstruction and development work in Iraq is business and American and British construction firms are business entities [that] will go for cheaper, productive and efficient subcontractors and suppliers," Madrasto said.

Industrialist Raul T. Concepcion said the President had explained her position very clearly and he was sure the US would eventually understand her move.

Federation of Filipino Chinese Chamber of Commerce and Industry executive vice president Francis Chua said that while the Philippines might be getting a bad rap in the Western media for its early withdrawal, he was confident "the world would learn to sympathize with and respect our position."

Now, while waiting to see how America would define its post-Iraq withdrawal ties with the Philippines, Malacañang is confident RP-US relations would remain firm.

Presidential spokesperson Ignacio Bunye said in an interview over RMN radio that the Palace expected US Ambassador Francis Ricciardone to give it the real score on "the Philippines' standing as far as the US is concerned."

"We remain positive that the rift is only temporary," said Bunye.

Ricciardone is scheduled to meet tomorrow with Foreign Affairs Secretary Delia Albert who announced that they would come out with a joint statement after the meeting.

In an interview Friday night, Ricciardone said: "She (Albert) and I will get together to have a nice chat on Monday and we'll meet with the press after that.

'Turing' given hero's burial

AT LEAST, they are together again.

Amid gray skies, former Sen. Arturo "Ka Turing" Tolentino, renowned lawmaker and constitutional expert, was buried with state honors at high noon yesterday at the Libingan ng mga Bayani in Fort Bonifacio.

Tolentino's gold-colored coffin was lowered in the B sector of the cemetery close to some of his former colleagues in government.

Meters away in front of him lay the remains of former Vice President Salvador "Doy" Laurel. To his left lay former Foreign Secretary and Sen. Blas Ople.

The three had shared some of the good as well as the rough times in the country's tumultuous political history.

Tolentino and Ople were allies of the late President Ferdinand Marcos during martial law. Laurel was on the other side of the trenches, fighting Marcos.

Before Tolentino's casket was lowered into the ground, the Philippine flag that had draped it was folded by two soldiers and given to Foreign Secretary Delia Albert, who handed it over to Tolentino's widow, Constancia.

The widow, who came to the funeral in a wheel chair, caressed Tolentino's coffin with her hands and wept. Other family relatives also broke into tears. An honor guard fired a 21-gun salute.

A legal luminary among the Old Guard of Philippine politics, Tolentino died following a heart attack on Monday. He was 93.

Jim Guiao Punzalan

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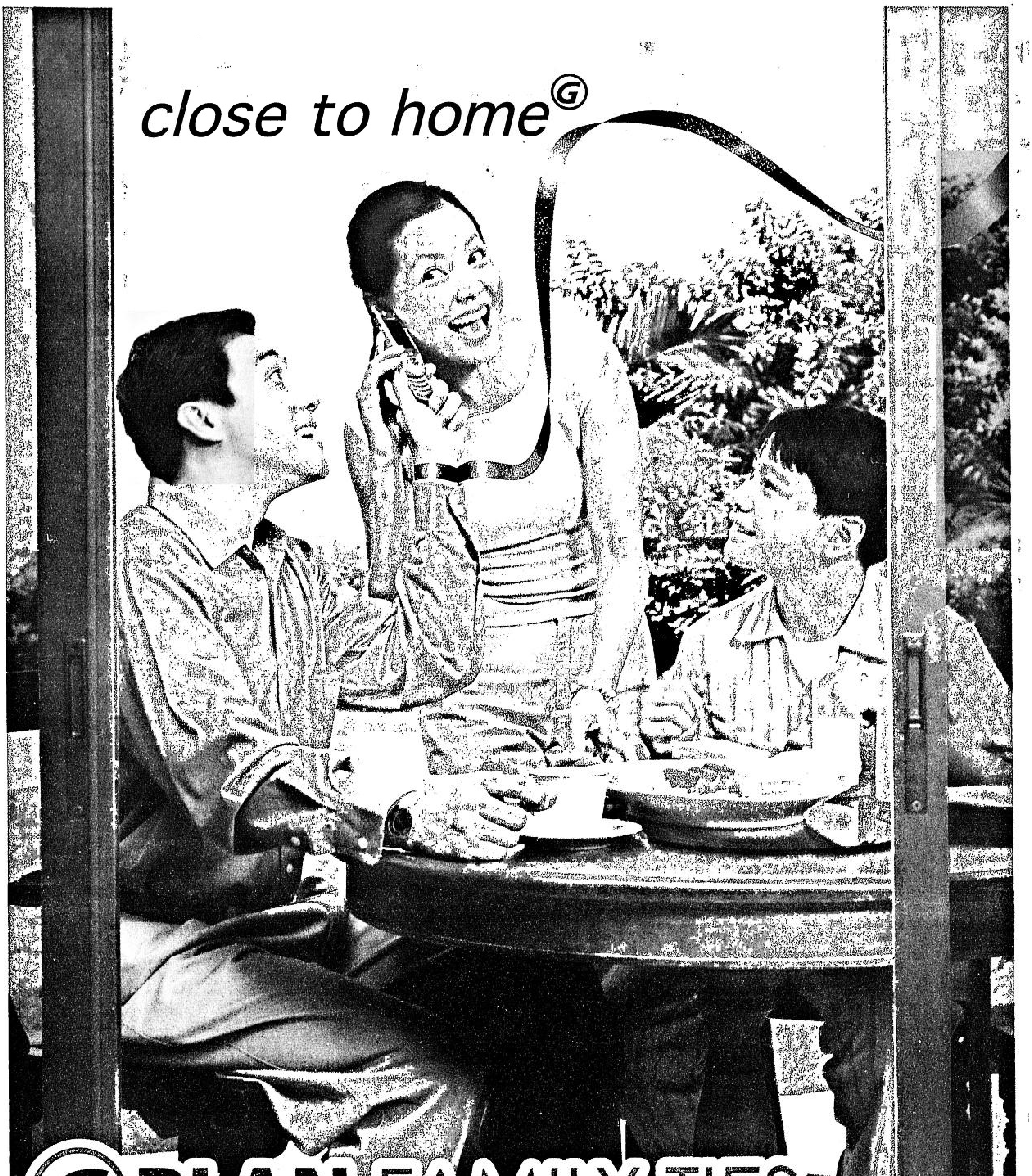

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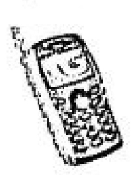
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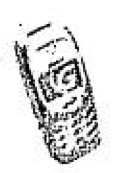
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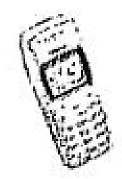
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Nationwide Search for Model Barangays for Eco-Waste Management

PGMA Honors Awardees

BRGY. LINOMOT, ISABELA BAGS GOLD AWARD. President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo confers the trophy for the "Gold" award and Php1 million cash award on the local officials of Brgy. Linomot in Jones, Isabela during the awarding ceremony of the Nationwide Search for Model Barangay for Eco-Waste Management held in Malacañang. With the President are (from left) Rep. Augusto Baculio, DENR Secretary Elisea Gozun and Ms. Amelita "Ming" Ramos of the Clean and Green Foundation and chairperson of the Convenors of the Nationwide Search.

President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo honored the top five barangays with the most effective solid waste management program in Malacañang.

Dubbed as the ***Nationwide Search for Model Barangays for Eco-Waste Management***, the search aims to inspire the country's 45,000 barangays to implement the law. More than 500 barangays participated in the search and 180 of them were chosen as National Finalists. Those that qualified were further shortlisted to 36 and subjected to strict validation by a multi-sectoral team.

President Arroyo provided Php1 million and trophies to be awarded to the barangays. Her personal interest in the project stems from the fact that Republic Act 9003 or the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act was the first bill she signed into law after EDSA II.

Senators Manuel Villar and Francis Pangilinan contributed Php1 million each to the national search.

Early this year, Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Secretary Elisea G. Gozun signed Joint Memorandum Circular No. 2004-01 with the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) which directed all provincial governors as well as city and municipal mayors to extend necessary assistance for the nationwide search.

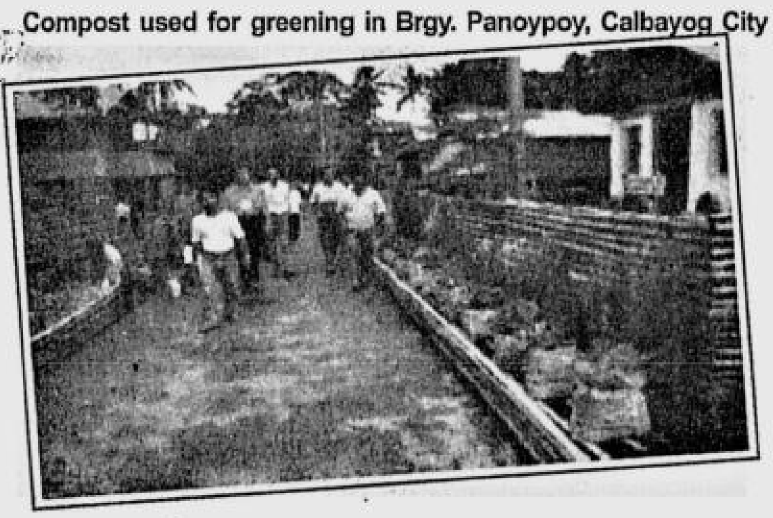
The ratings for the search were based on the efforts of barangays in education, engineering, enforcement, economics and sustainability and extra or special effort.

Self-evaluation forms submitted by participating barangays were first evaluated and forwarded to search committees in the city or municipal level. These were presented to the provincial level and then finally endorsed to the National Multi-Sectoral Search Committee composed of the National Solid Waste Management Commission, non-government organizations, and the academe.

The activity was made possible through the collaborative efforts of the DENR through the National Solid Waste Management Commission, DILG and the support of local government units as well as various organizations such as the Zero Waste Recycling Movement of the Philippines, Mother Earth Philippines, Clean and Green Foundation, Earth Day Network Philippines, Linis-Ganda Multi-Purpose Cooperative, Sagip Pasig Movement, Philippine Rural Reconstruction Movement, Miriam PEACE, Eco-Waste Coalition, Congressional Spouses Foundation, OIKOS Society-Couples for Christ, Manila Seedling Bank Foundation, Artists for the Environment, Ecological Society of the Philippines, Green Peace/GAIA, NASSA-CBCP, Caritas Manila, San Miguel Corporation and Asia Brewery.

Composting at Brgy. Holy Spirit, Quezon City

Compost used for greening in Brgy. Panoypoy, Calbayog City



PLASTIC
CANS

MRF at Brgy. Linomot, Jones, Isabela

Top Five Awardees

- (Gold award) Php1 million – Brgy. Linomot, Jones, Isabela
- (Silver award) Php500,000 – Brgy. Panoypoy, Calbayog City
- (Bronze award) Php250,000 – Brgy. Holy Spirit, Quezon City
- (Two-star award) Php100,000 – Brgy. Bued, Calasiao, Pangasinan
- (One-star award) Php 50,000 – Brgy. Sta. Cruz, Sto. Tomas, Batangas

Receiving Php25,000 and trophies from the Office of the President

1. Brgy. Calao-an, Candon, Ilocos Sur – Model Barangay for Household Composting System
2. Brgy. Lubiano, Pilar, Sorsogon – Model Barangay for Broad-based Community Participation
3. Brgy. Poblacion (Patay), Sagada, Mt. Province – Model Barangay for Eco-Volunteerism
4. Brgy. Purok 2, San Joaquin, Iloilo – Model Barangay for Eco-Entrepreneurship and Youth Participation

Special Recognition

- Municipality of Sibutad, Zamboanga del Norte – Model Local Government Unit with the Most Number of Materials Recovery Facilities (100% of barangays practicing)
- Quezon City Government – Pioneering Local Government Unit in Dumpsite Conversion with Power Generation
- Barangay Sun Valley, Parañaque – Pioneering Barangay for Ecological Solid Waste Management

Barangays that received Php25,000 and certificates

1. Brgy. Abo-Abo, Sofronio Española, Palawan
2. Brgy. Anahawon, Maramag, Bukidnon
3. Brgy. Bagumbuhay, Quezon City
4. Brgy. Banahaw, Sta. Cruz, Marinduque
5. Brgy. Bancod, Indang, Cavite
6. Brgy. Bulata, Cauyan, Negros Occidental
7. Brgy. Calindagan, Dumaguete, Negros Occidental
8. Brgy. Forbes Park, Makati City
9. Brgy. Lingsat, San Fernando, La Union
10. Brgy. Llas-Silangan, Barlig, Mt. Province
11. Brgy. Manguino-o, Calbayog, Western Samar
12. Brgy. Pag-asa, Sta. Cruz, Marinduque
13. Brgy. Pamplona Dos, Las Piñas City
14. Brgy. Philam, Quezon City
15. Brgy. Pines, Oroquieta, Misamis Occidental
16. Brgy. Poblacion, Maragusan, Compostella Valley
17. Brgy. Poblacion Ilaya, San Enrique, Iloilo
18. Brgy. San Antonio, Cauayan, Isabela
19. Brgy. San Antonio Ogbon, Nabua, Camarines Sur
20. Brgy. San Isidro, Luna, Apayao
21. Brgy. San Pablo, Cauayan, Isabela
22. Brgy. San Roque, Maramag, Bukidnon
23. Brgy. Santiago, Solsona, Ilocos Norte
24. Brgy. Turod Norte, Cordon, Isabela
25. Brgy. Ugong, Pasig City
26. Brgy. Zone 5, Sta. Barbara, Iloilo

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DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

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Countries that regulate least succeed best

From page A1

In the Philippines it averages 40 days—but can be much more. To get people out of poverty it must be quick and easy to create businesses that provide jobs and grow the economy.

The Philippines, in fact, is listed as one of the ten countries that regulates the most in the five categories examined: Starting a business, hiring and firing workers, enforcing contracts, getting credit, and closing a business.

Take starting a business.

"Regulatory intervention is particularly damaging in countries where its enforcement is subject to abuse and corruption." The Philippines would certainly fit into this category.

"Regulation in poor countries is more cumbersome in all aspects of business activity. Bolivia, Burkina Faso (where's that?), Chad, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Mali, Mozambique, Paraguay, Philippines, and Venezuela regulate the most.

Australia, Canada, Denmark, Hong Kong, Jamaica, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Singapore, Sweden, and the United Kingdom regulate the least."

That has to tell you something. And it does. Stop regulating.

"Heavier regulation is generally associated with more inefficiency in public institutions—longer delays and higher cost—and more unemployed people, corruption, less productivity and investment, but not with better quality of private or public goods. The countries that regulate the most—poor countries—have the least enforcement capacity and the fewest checks and balances in government to ensure that regulatory discretion is not used to abuse businesses and extract bribes." You'd certainly think they were talking about the Philippines wouldn't you.

The introduction of a single registration form and silent consent in approving registration have had enormous success. Reducing the number of procedures to statistical and tax registration and abolishing the minimum capital requirement lighten the burden on entrepreneurs and have been associated with the creation of larger numbers of new businesses. Other reforms require legislative change include introducing a general-objects clause in the articles of incorporation and removing notarial authorizations and court use from the registration process.

There are many reforms where the regulatory burden on business can be reduced, while the government can redirect much-needed resources toward the tasks that really count—such as providing basic social services. Something Thailand has done, but the Philippines hasn't. The benefits can be enormous. So why don't we do it?

Sweden has a "guillotine" approach for regulatory reform, in which hundreds of obsolete regulations are cancelled after the government periodically requires regulatory agencies to register all essential regulations.

I particularly like the Australian concept with all regulations automatically expiring after a certain period unless specifically renewed by parliament. And there's an agency that reviews toward achieving the "minimum necessary regulation." And is mandated to cut regulation in half.

The Philippines could aim for 10 percent of what exists today, and it would be far better off. A fundamental re-think is necessary: What is really needed?

For business entry, two procedures—registering for statistical purposes, and for tax and social security—are necessary to fulfill the social functions of the process. Australia limits its entry procedures to these two. Sweden has three, including registration with the labor office." The Philippines has 11.

And think of this: "A doctor can be hired in place of every government official regulating business activity or compliance with employment laws. A textbook can be printed in place of every batch of paperwork required for this or that license for running a business." And Filipino children sure need textbooks."

In 2002, Pakistan electronically connected all tax offices in the country, and streamlined business registration. As a result, the time to start a business was reduced from 53 to 22 days. Even Vietnam revised its Enterprise Law in 1999 to enhance growth in private business activity. The Philippines has done nothing—except talk about it.

Successive Philippine governments have promised to "streamline the bureaucracy," but none has in any meaningful way. A dramatic change in thinking, and action is needed.

If other countries can do it, so can the Philippines.

(The author advises multinationals on country risks.)

Carl, Clarence healing as mom settles down

From page A1

dation throughout the weekend to minimize their movement and discomfort, the bulletin said.

When Arlene learned of the twins' successful separation, she and her mother embraced each other for a long time and just wept tears of joy, said Carmen Sarmiento, executive director of the PAL Foundation, which partly sponsored the twins' treatment.

Arlene refused to believe the news until she actually saw them come out of the operating room as two separate boys, said Sarmiento in an e-mail message to the INQUIRER.

Terms of endearment

The twins are not called by their individual names but collectively as Toto, an Ilonggo term of endearment for little boys.

"Now the boys will no longer be known by that single collective nickname but will be called Toto Carl and Toto Clarence," she said.

Red vigil candles

In a telephone call to her family in Silay, Arlene recalled how, 20 minutes after the operation, Clarence opened his eyes wide and waved at her.

Twin brother Carl could barely open his eyes but still attempted to pull out a tube attached to his head.

Both Arlene and Nanay Belen know that the critical period is not yet over.

"Now that the boys are actually separated, Nanay Belen will continue to keep red vigil candles burning at the family altar. She knows they are not yet out of the woods," Sarmiento said.

Arlene and Nanay Belen are optimistic that the twins will make it, said Sarmiento. They both believe that the identical twins look like they take after Nanay Belen's side of the family, the Ofjers.

"Ofjer men have unusually long lives and are hardy. Nanay Belen's father is nearly 90. Her grandfather lived to over a hundred. They believe Carl's and Clarence's Ofjer blood will ensure that they will not only survive, but will lead full and productive lives," Sarmiento said.

Messages from all over

Heartfelt messages of support and encouragement, such as the ones below, continued to pour in to Arlene and the Cham medical team from across the United States and around the world.

"My gratitude, respect and admiration goes to all the doctors, nurses and other staff of Montefiore Medical Center involved in this truly selfless endeavor," said one well-wisher from the United States.

"Be assured that God is with you and He loves your little angels. God bless you all!" said another message from Canada.

Arlene has been heartened by these expressions of concern and hope. *(Readers who would like to may post a message at www.montekids.org.)*

Hometown

Back in the Aguirre family's hometown of Silay City in Occidental Negros, relatives and neighbors continued to pray for the twins in the small chapel in Hacienda Paz-Matagoy, Barangay Rizal.

The Aguirre family has kept the red candle of hope burning at the family altar where the pictures of the twins are placed.

"We are keeping up the vigil until the critical period is over and keep candles lit for the boys at home and at the chapel," said Azela Malunes, the twins' aunt. *With a report from Carla P. Gomez, PDI Visayas Bureau.*

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JOURNALISTS UNDER SIEGE

‘Arming media not the answer’

By TJ Burgonio

“WHY MEET gun violence with gun violence?”

Anti-gun advocate Nandy Pacheco yesterday twitted the Philippine National Police for its eagerness to arm journalists in the wake of the recent killing of two radio broadcasters.

PNP Director General Hermogenes Ebdane Jr., whose office issues licenses to carry guns outside the home, had broached the idea anew of arming journalists who were facing threats to their lives, police officials said Friday.

“It’s very sad, but why should we encourage people to meet gun violence with gun violence,” Pacheco, who has been batting for a “gunless society” the past 15 years, said in a phone interview.

“Guns are the problem, guns are the solution? How many more lives are going to be lost because of this?” he said.

3 newsmen shot at

Even as he spoke, unknown gunmen opened fire on three journalists in Cebu City in the latest attack on the media in the country, police said Saturday.

The journalists from Bantay Radyo returned fire after the attack Thursday which occurred as they were about to get into their vehicle, a police report said. Nobody was hurt in the incident.

Police gave no motive for the attack. It was also not clear if the media men had permits to carry the firearms in their vehicle.

Irresponsibility

The National Union of Journalists of the Philippines (NUJP) called the PNP suggestion “the height of irresponsibility.”

“It is the height of irresponsibility for the police to think arming journalists is the solution to the continuous media killings. This lame knee-jerk response is a virtual admission by law enforcement authorities of how inutile they are against those who seek to silence the press in this country,” said Inday Espina-Varona, NUJP chair, in a statement.

Instead of this “shallow idea,” Pacheco, who heads Gunless Society, asked the PNP to draw up “innovative” security measures based on principles of peace and active nonviolence for those facing gun threats.

“It’s about time we came up with a holistic approach that fosters respect for life,” he said.

Deterrent to crime

But Senior Supt. Arturo Cacdac, director of the police Firearms and Explosives Division which issues gun licenses, maintained that gun ownership helped deter crime.

“If people thought you were ready to defend yourself, probably it would deter [them from attacking you]. That’s my personal opinion,” said Cacdac in an interview.

The deaths last week of Arnel Manalo, correspondent of the tabloid Bulgar and dzRH radio station in Batangas, and Roger Mariano, anchor of dzJC in Laoag City, had highlighted once again the growing need of journalists for protection.

To curb gun-related crimes, Pacheco proposed that Congress restore the former stiffer penalty for people arrested for illegal possession of firearms.

“The current law is no longer a deterrent. The President should ask Congress to restore the original penalty,” he said.

In June 1997, President Fidel V. Ramos signed into law Republic Act No. 8294 reducing the maximum prison term for illegal possession of firearms from 21 years to 8 years.

The measure, authored by then Sen. Ramon Revilla, was believed to have been tailor-made for actor Robin Padilla who had been sentenced to from 10 to 18 years in prison for carrying firearms without a license.

Justice sought

The NUJP stressed that journalists were not asking for special privileges from the government.

What journalists are demanding, the NUJP said, is that law enforcers do their job by bringing murderers of media men to justice, thus putting an end to the climate of impunity that has encouraged attacks against the press.

A total of 56 newsmen have been killed in the country since 1986, when press freedom was restored following the ouster of strongman Ferdinand Marcos.

Vice President Noli de Castro, meanwhile, has offered a scholarship to Manalo’s 12-year-old son.

In a statement, De Castro said the scholarship would cover the education of the victim’s son through college. *With Delfin T. Mallari Jr. and Marlon Ramos, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau; AFP*

Korean dies in Boracay

ILOILO CITY—A Korean tourist was killed and another seriously injured in a jet-skiing accident on Boracay Island, Aklan, on Friday.

SPO1 Nick Cogolio of the Boracay Special Protection Unit (BSPU) identified the fatality as Hwang Dong Won, 24, and the injured as Ao Wo Joo, 22.

Won died of head injuries he suffered after the jet ski he was riding with Joo crashed into a pumpboat anchored about 200 meters from the shore off Barangay Balabag on the northern tip of Boracay Island.

Won, who was driving the rented jet ski, apparently lost control of the vehicle moments after he started the engine.

The jet ski crashed into one of the bamboo outriggers of the pumpboat after it traveled about 50 meters. The victims were thrown off and apparently hit their heads on the outriggers, said Cogolio, citing a BSPU report.

None of the three men on the pumpboat were injured. They were waiting for their passengers who were snorkeling.

The victims were first taken to the Caticlan Baptist Hospital in the mainland and later transferred to the Kalibo Mission Hospital in the provincial capital.

Won died at around 7 p.m. at the Kalibo hospital while Joo was transferred to the St. Paul’s Hospital in Iloilo City where she is being treated for head injuries.

Won and Joo were part of a group of Koreans studying at the Neo International Language Center in Iloilo City who arrived in Boracay on Friday, Cogolio said.

Koreans comprise the largest number of foreign tourists who visit the world-famous resort. *Nestor P. Burgos Jr., PDI Visayas Bureau*

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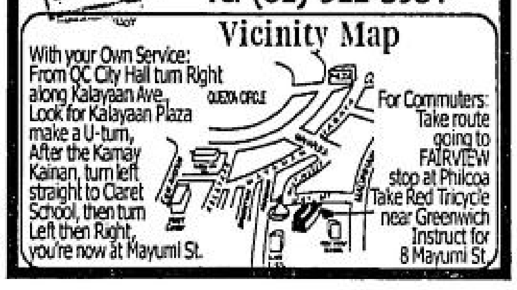
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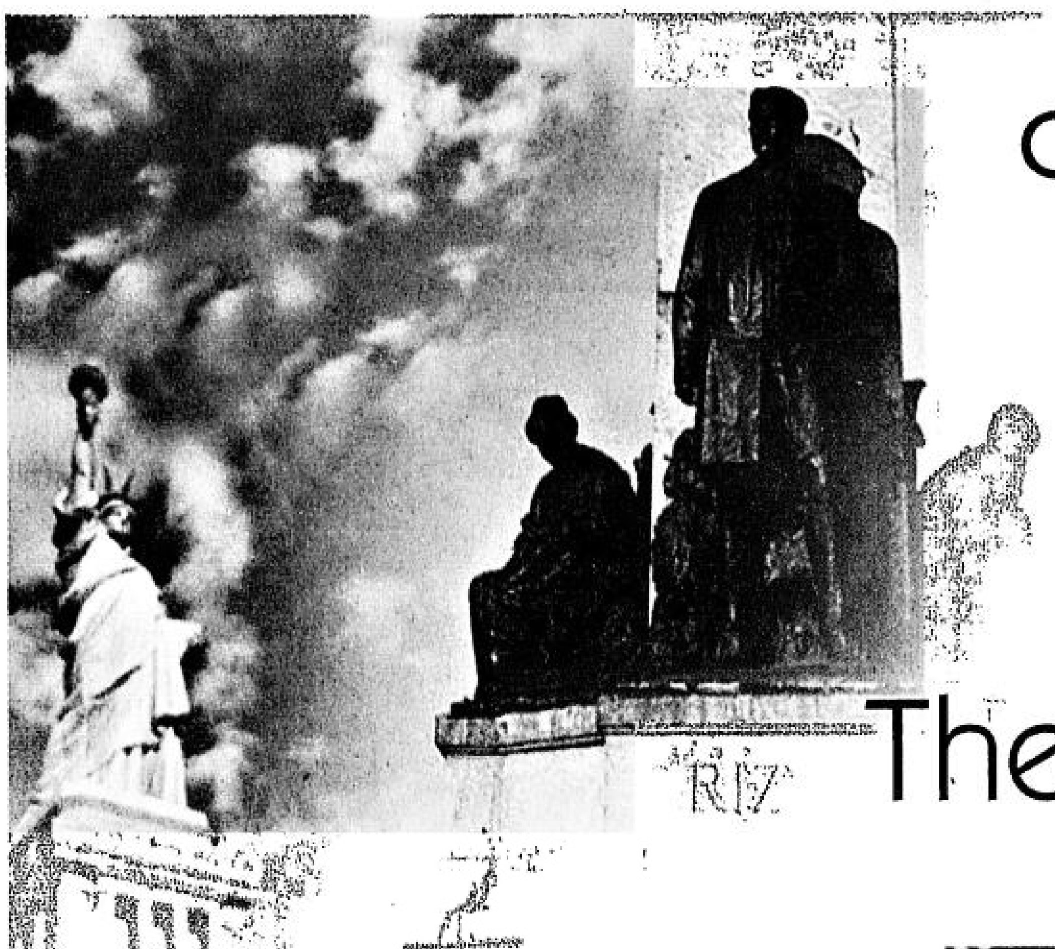
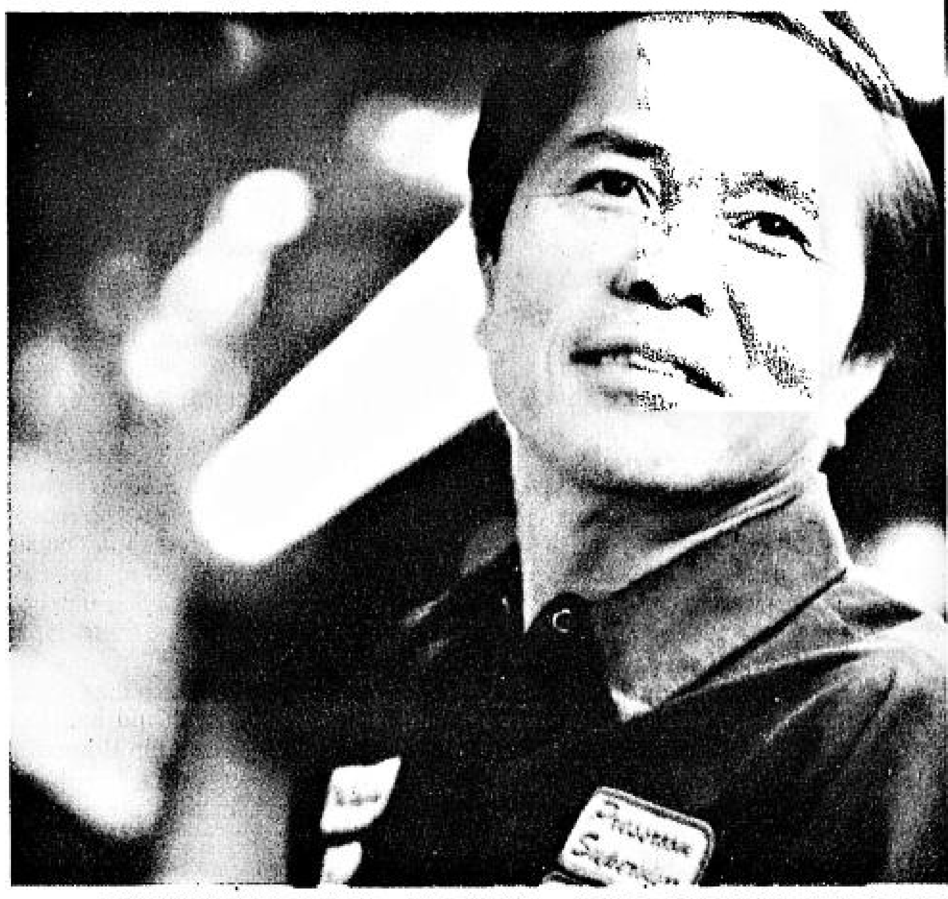
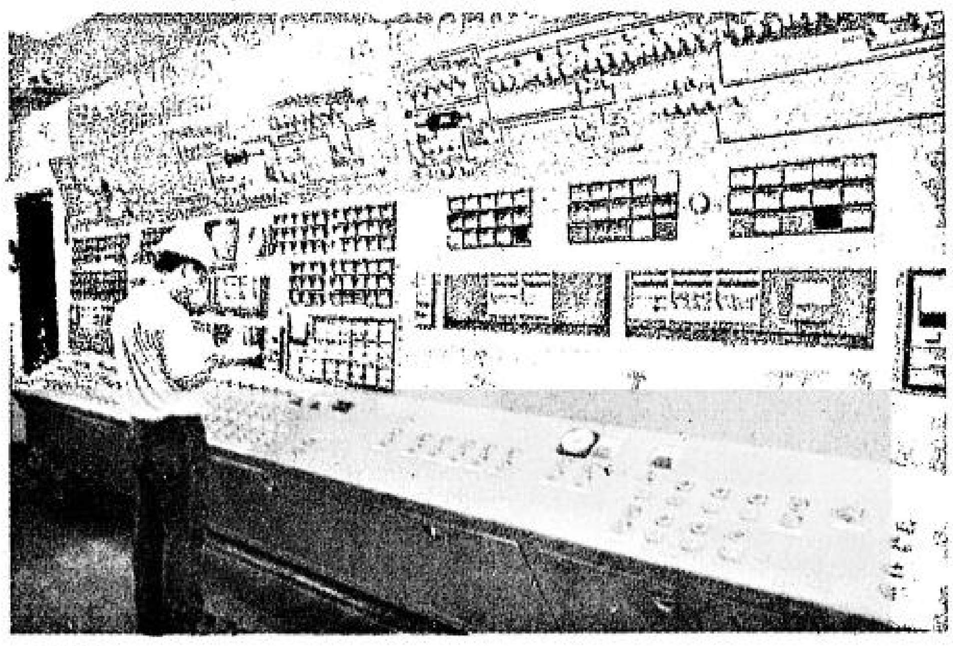


OFWs: Our Modern Day Heroes

Responding to the Cash Remittance Needs of OFWs & Their Families Back Home





There are about 8 million Overseas Filipino Workers in the world earning money to send back to the Philippines, back to their loved ones.

Over 23 million family members make use of this assistance from abroad. Imagine the number of Filipinos who will benefit from a remittance system that will give our modern day heroes value for their money, efficient service, peace of mind, and convenience. SMART Padala is the first and only cash remittance service via text, which enables OFWs to send remittances as often as they want. Family members here in the country will now be able to receive money through their cellular phones. This is a faster, cheaper, and more dependable way of sending cash into the country.

Rene who is a seaman in Dublin, Ireland, enters the office of a SMART remittance partner downtown. He heard of this new service from the leader in wireless and the leader in innovation in the Philippines. The word on the block is that, SMART has just launched SMART Padala. Rene likes the idea that he can now send money to his relatives in the Philippines via text. Because it comes out cheaper, he can now afford to send money regularly to help his aunt budget their monthly expenses. As he approaches the counter of the remittance partner abroad, he readies the cash that he wishes to remit. Handing it over to the person in charge he is informed that a SMART Money account will be created instantly for his aunt, Tita Aida, who will be the beneficiary of the money. His aunt will then have to activate the account from her mobile phone. The remittance partner will send the money through SMART Padala with just a few clicks on their mobile phone. His Tita Aida will receive an instant SMS message to inform her that the remitted cash is already credited to her SMART Money account. She can go to over 9,000 accredited SMART Padala centers such as participating McDonald's, SM, 7-11, and Tambunting outlets, including all SMART Wireless Centers to get the remitted cash. Rene, at first, could not believe it is this simple!

And because Tita Aida doesn't like leaving the house often, when she does, she only wants to do the essential groceries, wasting no time. She takes care of a house full of Rene's pamangkins and cousins. With the option not to get all the cash from her SMART Money account, Tita Aida can use the remaining funds to reload airtime in her mobile phone without having to leave the house and go to the sari-sari store across the street. She can also transfer funds to her loved ones with SMART Money accounts. She was so happy to hear this. At this moment, she is already creating one for her two sons studying in Manila. Now, she can send them money by simply accessing the SMART Money menu from her mobile phone.

Plus, using the SMART Money card, which she availed from the nearest SMART Wireless center, she can purchase goods and services in any MasterCard electronic establishment. No more need to bring big amounts of cash. Best of all, through her SMART Money card, Tita Aida can go to any Banco De Oro, Expressnet, and Megalink ATM to withdraw the extra money she might need. These added features help her accomplish her day-to-day tasks giving her enough personal time with the kids.

Tita Aida is boasting to all her friends of this new service. Sending money through SMART Padala is cheaper than door-to-door delivery. Because it is not handcarried, Tita Aida also feels more confident that the cash is secure. She knows how hard Rene works just to help send his pamangkins and cousins to school. For her, people like Rene really deserve to be called our modern day heroes.

It is the added convenience offered by SMART Padala, another breakthrough service from SMART Communications Inc., that provides efficiency, security and dependability when sending cash remittances from abroad. It also offers a means in which OFWs provide for their families here in the country and manage to keep in touch despite the distance.

SMART Padala makes it easier to send money anytime from around the world to anywhere in the Philippines, bringing OFWs closer to their families and enabling remittance companies to provide better solutions for their needs, keeping them constantly connected to those who matter most in their lives.

SMART PADALA
THE WORLD'S FIRST INTERNATIONAL CASH REMITTANCE THROUGH TEXT

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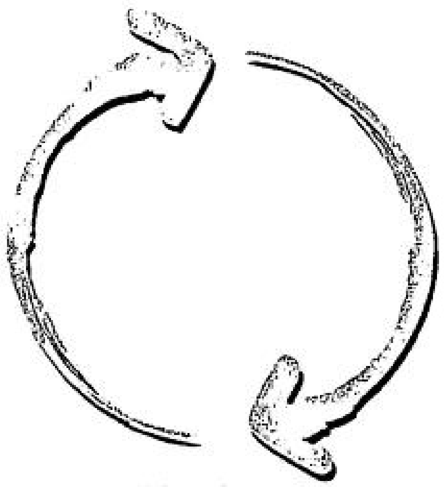

It's about keeping families together whether here or abroad!

GMA to retain control of Pagcor purse strings

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

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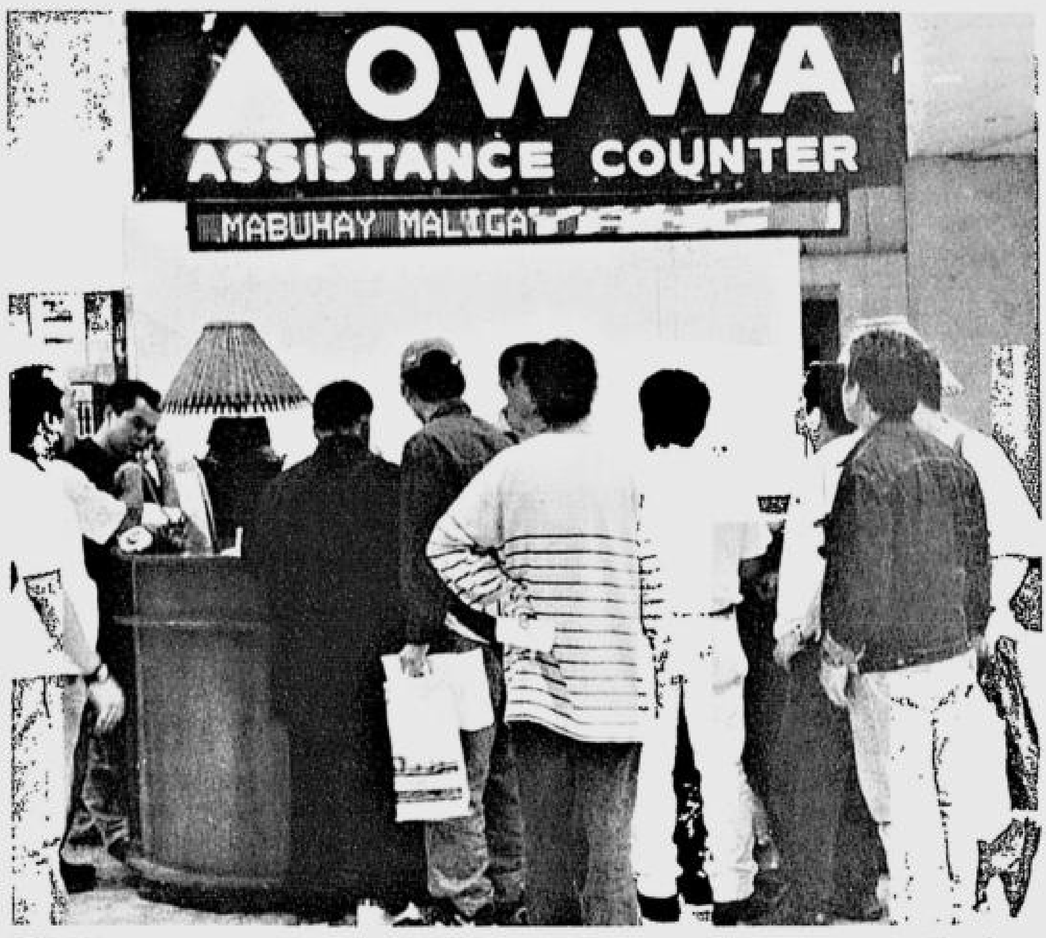

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"In Search of Retailing Excellence"
TENTATIVE PROGRAM *(as of August 4, 2004)*

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Hon. Cesar V. Purisima
Secretary, Dept. of Trade & Industry
Mr. Napoleon L. Nazareno
President/CEO, PLDT
"Philippines' Overall Best Managed Company" (Asia Money)
Luncheon Presentation: Delivering Cutting Edge Solutions to Corporate Customers
Mr. Ernesto R. Alberto
Senior Vice President
PLDT Corporate Business Group
Smarter Retailing
Engr. Marnie S. Tolosa
Solutions Manager
Microsoft Philippines
Branding Strategies for Retailers
Ms. Frances J. Yu
President, FJY Consulting
The Next Generation Store: Global Trends in Retailing
Mr. Daniel Hopping
Consulting Marketing Manager
IBM Corporation (USA)
Supercharging the Value Chain – e-Retailing Transformation Thru Technology
Mr. Ernesto Jose S. Bilar
Sr. Product Manager - Process
Supply Chain Solutions
Oracle South Asia
If You Don't Measure It, You Can't Manage It: Retail Metrics That Matter
Mr. Bikash Kumar
Director, Integrated Retail
Management Consulting (India)
DAY 2 August 13, 2004
The Philippine Retail Industry
Mr. Bienvenido V. Tantoco III
President, PRA
Winning Trends in Advertising & Promotions
Ms. Yolanda V. Ong
Group Chairperson
Campaigns & Grey
Strategic Financing for SMEs
Amb. Jesus P. Tambunting
Chairman
Planters Development Bank
The Battle for the Customer's Share of Life
Mr. J. Richard Soriano
Founder/President
BCD Pinpoint
Luncheon Presentation: There's Better Business in GlobeQUEST Store Express
Speaker c/o GlobeQUEST
Inspirational Talk
Mr. Rod Nepomuceno
Columnist
Philippine Star
Shopper Trends - Understanding Consumers' Shopping Habits NEW Topic
Mr. Peter Gale
Retail Services Director
ACNielsen
Budget-Friendly Market Research at Point of Purchase
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Professor, Coca-cola Foundation - Int'l Marketing
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Success Stories on Retail Entrepreneurship NEW Topic
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Gov't helps illegal OFWs in Lebanon

By Martin P. Marfil

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Millions of txtrs set protest

By Norman Bordadora

THE ANTI-TAX coalition Txt Power yesterday threatened to unleash on Monday a barrage of text messages on legislators to pressure Congress into junking the proposed tax on short messaging services (SMS) or text messaging.

In what could be the first cyber protest in the Philippines, Txt Power is calling on the country's estimated 28 million cellular phone users here and abroad to collectively "and creatively" register their protest through millions of text messages sent to key congressmen.

"We are calling on all texters opposed to the imposition of new taxes on our cellphones to participate in the cyber rally," said Trixie Concepcion of Txt Power.

"Using the very medium the government wants to tax, we can show how we vehemently oppose these impositions on cell phones that are being passed on to the consumers," she added.

Concepcion said Txt Power would publicize on Monday morning the numbers of key legislators who they think would be deeply involved in legislating President Macapagal-Arroyo's proposal for new tax measures, including that on text messages.

With their numbers known to the millions of cell phone subscribers, it is expected that the congressmen's mobile phones would be barraged, even clogged, with text messages of protest.

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OWWA
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Engr. Marnie S. Tolosa
Solutions Manager
Microsoft Philippines

Branding Strategies for Retailers
Ms. Frances J. Yu
President, FJY Consulting

The Next Generation Store: Global Trends in Retailing
Mr. Daniel Hopping
Consulting Marketing Manager
IBM Corporation (USA)

Supercharging the Value Chain – e-Retailing Transformation Thru Technology
Mr. Ernesto Jose S. Bilar
Sr. Product Manager - Process Supply Chain Solutions
Oracle South Asia

If You Don't Measure It, You Can't Manage It: Retail Metrics That Matter
Mr. Bikash Kumar
Director, Integrated Retail Management Consulting (India)

DAY 2 August 13, 2004

The Philippine Retail Industry
Mr. Bienvenido V. Tantoco III
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Strategic Financing for SMEs
Amb. Jesus P. Tambunting
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Planters Development Bank

The Battle for the Customer's Share of Life
Mr. J. Richard Soriano
Founder/President
BCD Pinpoint

Luncheon Presentation: There's Better Business in GlobeQUEST Store Express
Speaker c/o GlobeQUEST

Inspirational Talk
Mr. Rod Nepomuceno
Columnist
Philippine Star

Shopper Trends - Understanding Consumers' Shopping Habits NEW Topic
Mr. Peter Gale
Retail Services Director
ACNielsen

Budget-Friendly Market Research at Point of Purchace
Dr. Eduardo Roberto
Professor, Coca-cola Foundation - Int'l Marketing
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Millions of txtrs set protest

By Norman Bordadora

THE ANTI-TAX coalition Txt Power yesterday threatened to unleash on Monday a barrage of text messages on legislators to pressure Congress into junking the proposed tax on short messaging services (SMS) or text messaging.

In what could be the first cyber protest in the Philippines, Txt Power is calling on the country's estimated 28 million cellular phone users here and abroad to collectively "and creatively" register their protest through millions of text messages sent to key congressmen.

"We are calling on all texters opposed to the imposition of new taxes on our cellphones to participate in the cyber rally," said Trixie Concepcion of Txt Power.

"Using the very medium the government wants to tax, we can show how we vehemently oppose these impositions on cell phones that are being passed on to the consumers," she added.

Concepcion said Txt Power would publicize on Monday morning the numbers of key legislators who they think would be deeply involved in legislating President Macapagal-Arroyo's proposal for new tax measures, including that on text messages.

With their numbers known to the millions of cell phone subscribers, it is expected that the congressmen's mobile phones would be barraged, even clogged, with text messages of protest.

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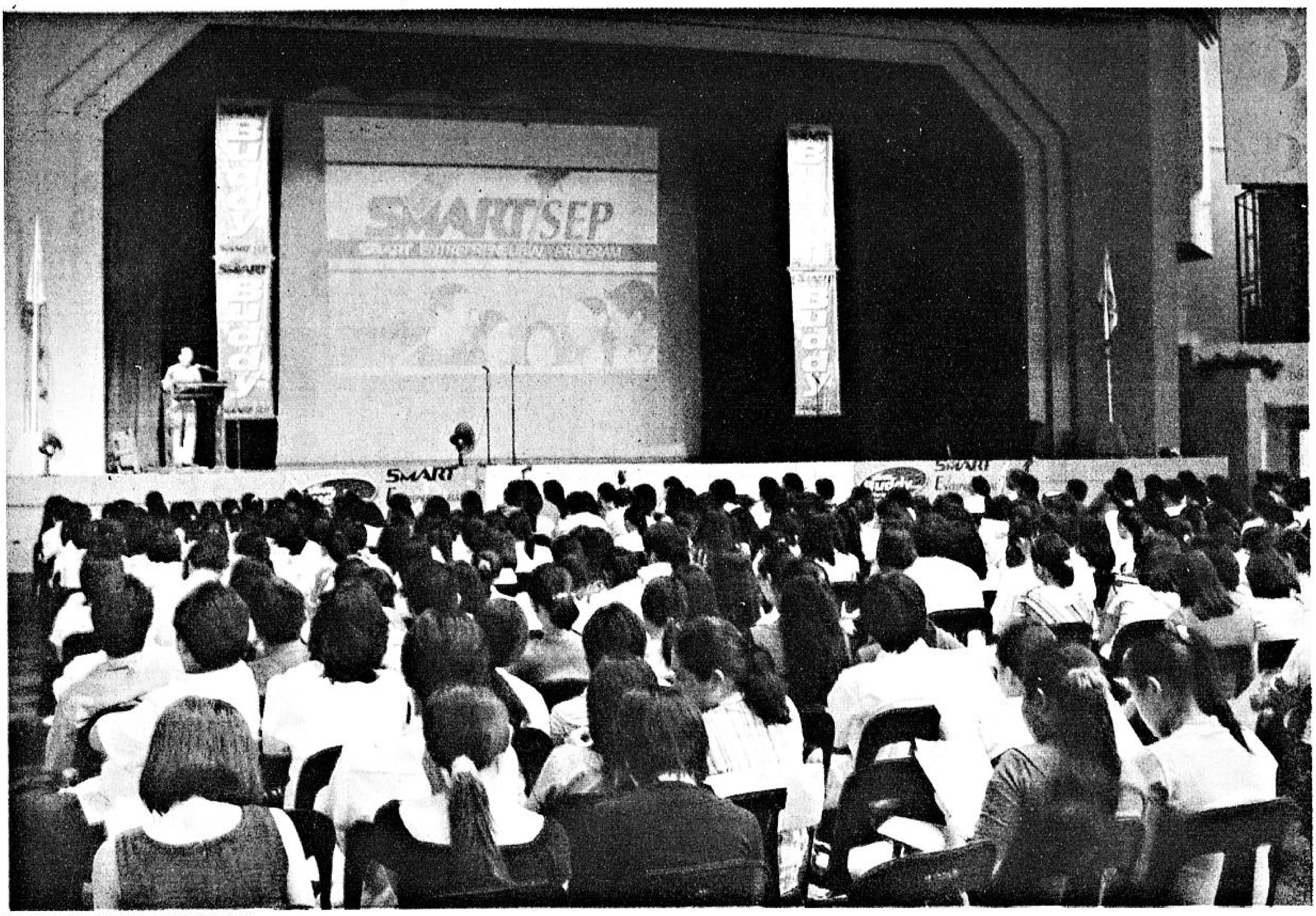


What are the key elements for a successful entrepreneur?

SMART Entrepreneurial Program at La Salle Bacolod:

An Outreach in Entrepreneurship

What are the key elements for a successful entrepreneur? SMART PCMSD Head Boy Martirez invited La Salle Bacolod students who attended the SMART Entrepreneurial Program (SEP) workshop held last July 20, 2004 to find out for themselves as he introduced guest speaker Mr. Leonito Lopue.

Mr. Lopue gave a vivid picture of his family history, full of trials, tribulations, and ultimately success. From his family's Chinese roots as masons and stonecutters on the mainland, the virtues of hard work and perseverance helped in making them household names in the Visayan retail industry.

SEP adds one more crucial component to success. It gives students interested in entrepreneurship a window into telecommunications, which according to Mr. Boy Martirez is today's "sunrise industry". "During your last graduation rites, I witnessed 1,500 graduating seniors onstage. Given the statistics on employment today, only a fraction would probably land jobs on their first try, jockeying for the little that are available," he said. SEP gives them another viable option.

A Significant Step Into the Provinces

SEP's La Salle Bacolod debut represents its commitment in furthering entrepreneurial opportunities for young people.

University of St. La Salle (USLS) Bacolod aims to make its student "effective catalysts for transformation in their community and country," says Ms. Lisa Dy, Job Placement Officer of USLS. "SEP brings to our students an awareness of vast potentials available to individuals who are creative, highly motivated, and determined."

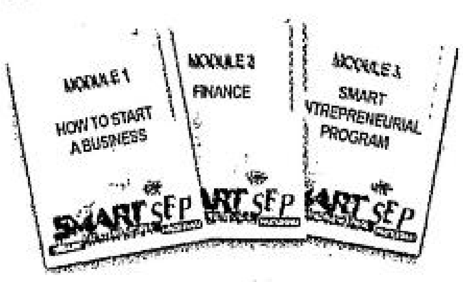
SEP—The Next Wave of Change

Hard work and perseverance will always be hallmarks of the successful entrepreneur, as Mr. Lopue says, but the forward-looking direction of a program like SEP gives them added weaponry to face a dynamic future.

Today, "waves of change" come so much quicker, especially in technology. SEP gives students a head start in not only understanding the wireless business, but also becoming partners who profit from it.

Mr. Boy Martirez
SMART's Head of PCMSD

Mr. Martirez hands a plaque of appreciation to Mr. Leonito Lopue



Manny on Entrepreneurship

"...Depth of commitment can overcome the lack of resources... a spirit of purpose can give impetus to human energy...the power of ambition can set heroic goals and achieve them."

-- Manuel V. Pangilinan,
PLDT and SMART Chairman

Polly on Entrepreneurship

"...Going into your own business means taking charge of your life. Know yourself and pursue your goals with a passion. But you will fail if you do not temper this drive with prudence and a sense of humility."

--Napoleon L. Nazareno
PLDT and SMART President & CEO

The USLS vocal choir

[illegible] seniors at the SMART Entrepreneurial Program (SEP) sign up

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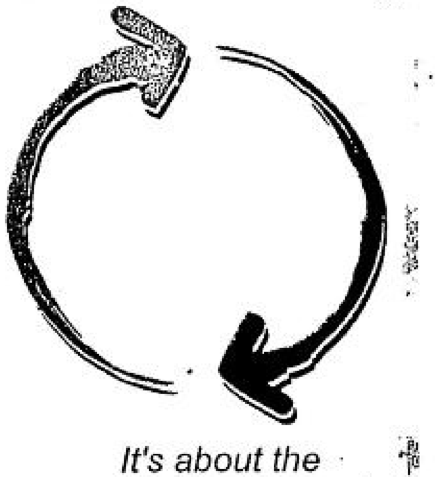

It's about the opportunities we provide.

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The WORLD

Editor **Luverne B. Gueco**

3 DAYS OF FIGHTING IN NAJAF

US says it killed 300 Iraqis

NAJAF, Iraq—US marines battled Shiite militiamen in the holy city of Najaf for a third day on Saturday as the death toll mounted in the worst bout of fighting in Iraq in four months.

The US military says it has killed some 300 enemy fighters in the fighting, while statements on Friday said two US marines were killed in action in Najaf and one soldier died of an attack in Baghdad.

The fresh fighting marks a major challenge for US-backed Prime Minister Iyad Allawi and has destroyed a two-month-old ceasefire between US forces and the Mehdi Army, a militia loyal to radical Shiite Muslim cleric Moqtada Sadr.

Allawi was set to announce later on Saturday a series of measures aimed at containing the insurgency raging since the fall of Saddam Hussein in April 2003.

The handover of power to Allawi's interim administration in June has failed to ease the wave of bombings, kidnappings and attacks against Iraqi and US forces. The latest upsurge of violence also throws into doubt a conference set for Aug. 15 to choose a 100-member National Council to act as parliament.

Residents in Najaf said the combatants exchanged machine gun fire, shells and mortars into the early hours of Saturday. There was a lull for several hours but then fierce fighting erupted again around midday, residents said.

Hundreds of Mehdi militiamen roamed the streets around the city's holy shrines, ignoring an ultimatum by the US-appointed governor to quit Najaf by the evening.

Shops and businesses remained closed as residents stayed indoors. Some of the few who ventured out were clearing rubble of badly damaged shops and buildings.

The US marines said on Friday they had killed 300 fighters of Sadr's Mehdi Army militia in two days of fighting in Najaf.

But a militia spokesperson said only 36 militiamen had died in several Iraqi cities from clashes that have fueled fears of a new rebellion of radical Shiites.

A health ministry official said 35 people had been killed and 180 wounded in fighting in mainly Shiite districts of Baghdad since Thursday. He said eight more were killed and 18 wounded in the southern city of Nassiriya and one person died and two were wounded in the nearby town of Amara.

But the official could not give casualty figures from Najaf.

"We don't have accurate figures of the total dead or wounded from Najaf because ambulances are being attacked or seized," he said without giving further details.

Much of the fighting has taken place around the mausoleums and small caves of Najaf's ancient Shiite cemetery, the largest in the Arab world and a popular sanctuary for Mehdi fighters. *Reuters*

BRITISH soldiers fire mortars to illuminate the oil pipeline area for surveillance during a patrol on the southern outskirts of Basra early Aug. 7. Oil pipelines have been the target of sabotage by insurgents and repeated attacks on Iraq's oil infrastructure have defied the interim government's efforts to increase exports and bring in much needed hard currency for the country's reconstruction. AFP

US allies in Iraq losing battle for hearts at home

VIENNA—Some of America's staunchest allies in Iraq may be losing the battle for hearts and minds at home.

Nearly three in four Poles say they oppose keeping soldiers in Iraq, a poll released this week found. The eroding support in Poland—a key coalition member with 2,400 troops in Iraq—points up how antiwar sentiment is rising in countries the United States counts among its most resolute partners.

"I don't agree with the troops being there. They are in danger every day, and for what?" asked Marian Ciobanu, 28, a security guard in Romania, which has a 700-member contingent serving with the US-led coalition.

Underscoring that danger, about 60 Romanian troops came under fire early Friday from insurgents armed with rifles and rocket-propelled grenades as they patrolled a road in southern Iraq, Romania's defense ministry said. No injuries were reported.

Seventy-three percent of Poles oppose the presence of their troops—7 percentage points more than in June—according to the survey released Thursday by the CBOS state polling agency. Another 83 percent said they fear Poland, which also commands 3,800 troops from 16 nations in Iraq, could face reprisal terrorist attacks.

Sixty-seven percent of respondents said they want a troop pullout as soon as possible, compared to 60 percent in June, while 29 percent want to see Poland carry through with the mission—5 percent less than in June. The survey of 920 adults had a margin of error of plus or minus 3 percentage points.

Poland's leaders plan to keep troops in Iraq until the situation there has stabilized, but have said they intend to pare down the number of soldiers to between 1,000 and 1,500 in January.

The Poles aren't the only squeamish ones.

The Czech Republic, which has about 90 troops in Iraq, joined 30 other coalition nations in signing a declaration Thursday that condemns the recent abductions and beheadings of foreign workers by insurgents and vows not to make any concessions to the kidnappers.

But many ordinary Czechs have grave misgivings about their country's involvement in an increasingly bloody attempt to secure Iraq.

"There's no place for Czech soldiers in Iraq. They should leave the country," said Katerina Hejdukova, 34, an unemployed young mother in Prague.

The declaration, which was initiated by Bulgaria, has been promoted by the United States, which is trying to keep the coalition together in the wake of troop withdrawals by Spain and the Philippines. Albania, Australia, Britain, Denmark, Estonia, Kazakhstan, Latvia, New Zealand, Singapore and Slovakia were among other coalition nations to sign it this week.

Bulgaria intends to keep its 480 troops in Iraq despite the kidnappings and beheadings of two civilian Bulgarian truck drivers there in July. Its insistence on sticking with the coalition has prompted rising public unease.

Four in five Bulgarians think their country's involvement could provoke a retaliatory terrorist strike on Bulgaria, a recent survey suggested. *AP*

UN prober faults Sudan for Darfur killings

GENEVA—A UN investigator said on Friday the Sudanese government was largely to blame for a humanitarian disaster in Darfur and its responsibility for large numbers of killings in the region was beyond doubt.

Investigator Asma Jahangir, a Pakistani lawyer, said a June visit to Darfur found overwhelming evidence government forces and militia they backed had executed large numbers of civilians.

But according to an agreement reached this week and released on Friday, Sudan had now pledged to set up safe areas for uprooted villagers, work to disarm marauding militia and stop offensive actions by government troops in civilian areas.

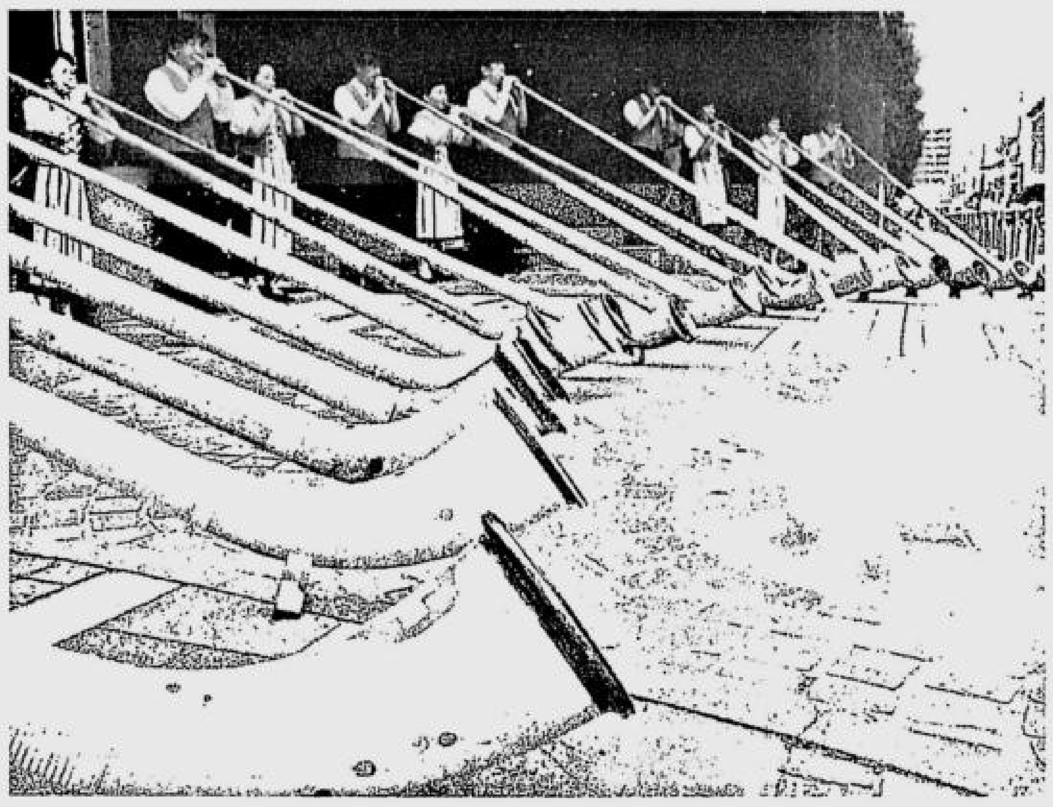
The pact, reached on Wednesday between Sudanese Foreign Minister Mustafa Osman Ismail and UN envoy Jan Pronk, outlines steps the Khartoum government must take within a month to improve security in its western Darfur region, site of what the United Nations calls the world's worst humanitarian crisis.

More than a million people have been displaced by conflict there and Jahangir said the government was mostly to blame.

"It is beyond doubt that the government of the Sudan is responsible for extrajudicial and summary executions of large numbers of people over the last several months in the Darfur region," the Pakistani lawyer said in a report for the UN Sub-Commission on Human Rights, currently meeting in Geneva.

"The current humanitarian disaster unfolding in Darfur, for which the government is largely responsible, has put millions of civilians at risk," she said in the report.

Her report, though written on her own responsibility as an independent investigator, appeared to be the toughest to emerge from the world body on events in western Sudan in the past year. *Reuters*



NOT YOUR USUAL CONCERT

Members of Tamagawa Alphorn Club play their alpine horns during a concert in the summer festival in Atsugi city, some 40 km west of Tokyo, Aug. 7. AFP

New sub can carry people to most parts of ocean floor

WASHINGTON—A new deep-sea research vessel will be able to carry people to 99 percent of the ocean floor, diving deeper than the famed Alvin that pioneered the study of seafloor vents, plate tectonics and deep ocean creatures over the past 40 years.

The new American submersible will provide the tools to reach "not for the stars but for the depths," Robert Gagosian, president of the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, said Friday at a briefing at the National Science Foundation.

France, Russia and Japan also operate deep sea research vessels and China is building one, officials said. The new ship will have similar capabilities.

It will dive thousands of feet deeper than Alvin, carry more scientific instruments, communicate more quickly and stay down longer.

Alvin "has been a trusted trouper for four decades and a good friend, but science advances and so does technology," said Arden Bement, acting director of NSF.

Design for the Alvin Replacement Vessel is under way with launch expected in 2008, officials said.

The vessel is expected to be able to descend more than 6,300 meters into the ocean. Alvin dives to just short of 4,500 meters). The new capability will still remain short of the deepest spot in the oceans, more than 10,800 meters in the Mariana Trench.

Only the bathyscaphe Trieste—in 1960—has carried people to that depth, taking just two people there, a fraction of the 12 who have walked on the moon.

The new vessel is expected to cost $21.6 million, paid for by the NSF, with additional funding from Woods Hole for instruments, lighting and sensors. *AP*

MISS INDONESIA FINALIST

Andina Agustina, 18, smiles during the final of the Miss Indonesia beauty contest in Jakarta Aug. 6. Agustina, a native of Aceh, became the first finalist in the annual Miss Indonesia pageant to wear a Muslim head scarf. REUTERS

Gulf of Tonkin incident still debated 40 years later

By Margie Mason

HANOI—Forty years ago Saturday, the US Congress gave President Lyndon B. Johnson a green light to escalate the war in Vietnam based on now-disputed accounts of attacks by North Vietnamese boats on US destroyers—a decision some compare to its recent approval of the invasion of Iraq.

Some argue Johnson and Congress acted hastily based on limited or misleading information about what really happened in the Gulf of Tonkin, a question that continues to be debated today.

Johnson told Americans that on Aug. 2 and Aug. 4, 1964, communist torpedo boats fired on US destroyers. In retaliation after the second alleged attack, US aircraft bombed Vietnamese naval bases and an oil depot on Aug. 5.

Two days later, Johnson went to Congress asking for its nod to step up US involvement in Vietnam. Both houses agreed almost unanimously, a decision that would ultimately send America spiraling into its most divisive war, ending with the deaths of some 58,000 Americans and an estimated 3 million Vietnamese troops and civilians.

"The (Gulf of Tonkin) resolution was a blank check," said Tony Edmonds, an expert on the Vietnam War at Ball State University in Indiana. "Certainly very similar to what happened with the congressional resolution on the Iraq War."

The Aug. 2 attack, prompted by secret US-directed commando attacks on the North, is not disputed by either side. But the Vietnamese—along with several American scholars and a US Navy historian—contend that a second attack never occurred.

"More recent analysis of that data and additional information gathered on the Aug. 4 episode now makes it clear that North Vietnamese naval forces did not attack (USS) Maddox and (USS) Turner Joy that night in the summer of 1964," Edward J. Marolda, a senior historian at the US Naval Historical Center, wrote in a report reversing a 1986 account he co-authored.

The Vietnamese have long denied that a second attack took place. In 1995, former Defense Secretary Robert McNamara met in Hanoi with Gen. Vo Nguyen Giap, the mastermind behind North Vietnamese military forces. The two disagreed about what happened in the Gulf of Tonkin during those days in early August. Giap, now nearly 93, argued Vietnam did not attack twice.

"The Vietnamese wouldn't dare to bring their outdated navy forces to fight with the modern ships of the United States in international waters," said Duong Trung Quoc, a Vietnamese historian and legislator, who said North Vietnam was forced to attack the first time after a US ship entered their waters but that no second attack occurred.

Edwin Moise, a professor at Clemson University in South Carolina who published a book about the Tonkin Gulf incident, agrees with Giap.

"It started out as a perfectly genuine mistake; the guys on the two destroyers honestly thought they were under attack, and reported they were under attack" on Aug. 4, he said, adding that it was more likely that crew members mistakenly saw something else on the radar—birds, US aircraft or even water splashing off their own gunfire.

He does not, however, believe that Johnson initially lied to the American public but rather that the president received bad information and then became ensnared. But Moise said the belief that a second attack occurred did prompt a swift congressional response that may have otherwise been harder for Johnson to obtain.

"I think he soon learned there probably had not been an attack on Aug. 4," Moise said. "From that point onward he became dishonest, pretending the evidence still supported the reality of the Aug. 4 attack, to avoid political embarrassment."

After the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks on the United States, President George W. Bush also received overwhelming support from Congress to invade Iraq following now-discredited reports that Saddam Hussein had stockpiled weapons of mass destruction.

In Vietnam, the 40th anniversary was profiled on state television and in newspaper articles with photos of veterans now in their 70s who proudly recalled fighting the Americans and taking the first US airman prisoner of war following the clash at sea. *AP*

Lung cancer, road accidents now top killers of Chinese

BEIJING—Lung cancer and traffic accidents have become the top causes of death in China, according to official research, reflecting the huge number of smokers and increasingly hazardous roads.

The study by the Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences was based on data gathered between 1991 and 2000 and found that lung cancer had replaced stomach cancer as the main cause of death among cancers, the China Daily said.

With rampant smoking in China, statistics showed an average of 40.24 people out of 100,000 people die from lung cancer.

The trend was "worrying," said Yang Gonghuan, director of the Academy's Institute of Basic Medical Sciences.

Statistics indicated tobacco consumption in the 1990s increased by more than twice the rate in the 1970s and a survey in 1996 found two-thirds of men in China smoke.

"In the next 20 years, the death rate caused by lung cancer will continue to grow," Yang said.

Smoking — the greatest cause of lung cancer—does not show its effects until 20 to 30 years after the fact, she said.

The study also found that deaths caused by traffic accidents have increased significantly in the past decade as the number of automobiles in China surged.

In 2002, road accidents remained the primary cause of accidental death and replaced suicide as the top cause of injury-related death.

Some 109,400 people were killed on the roads in 2002, and numbers rose 2.5 percent in the first seven months of 2004 compared with the same period last year. *AFP*

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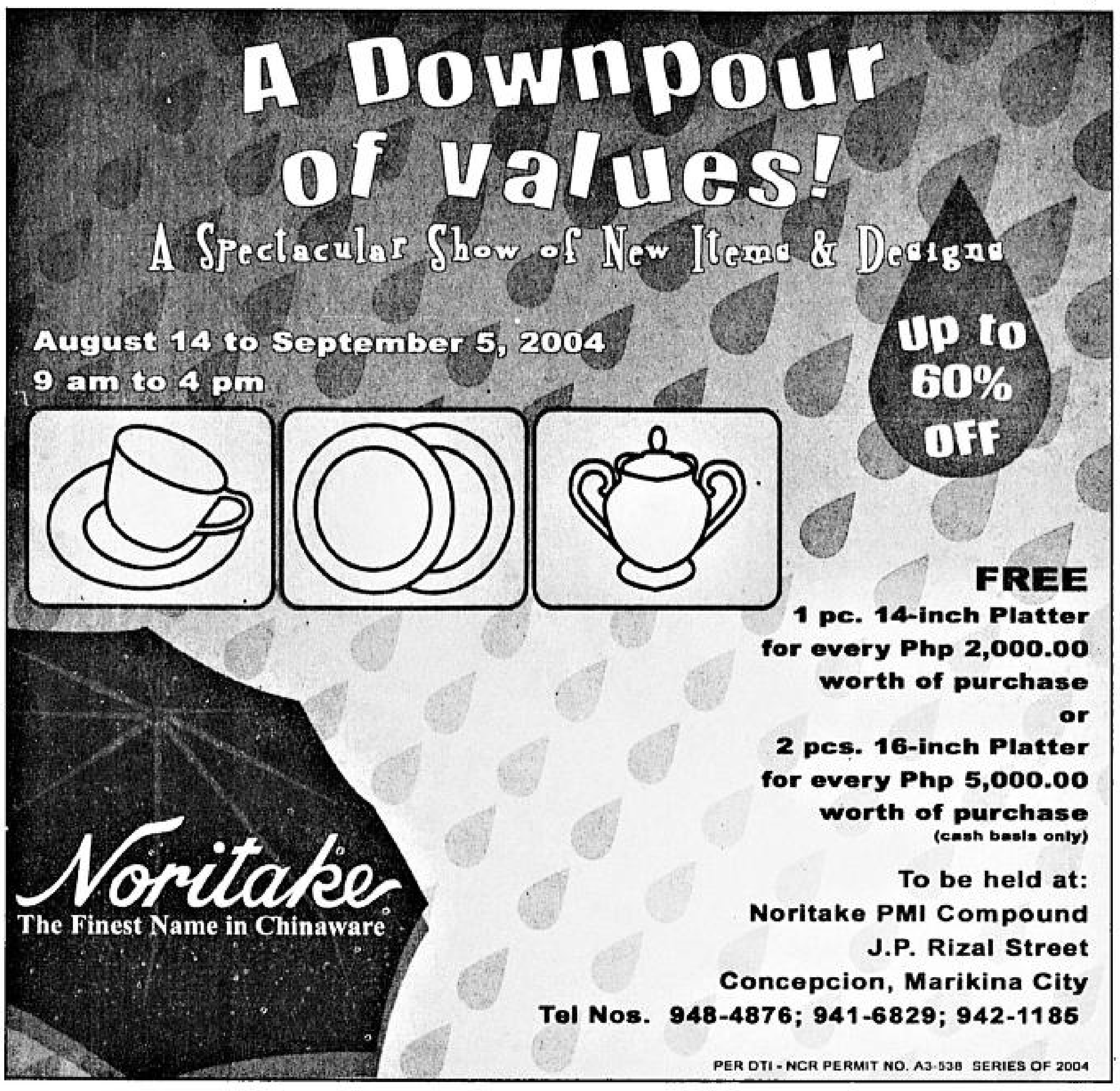

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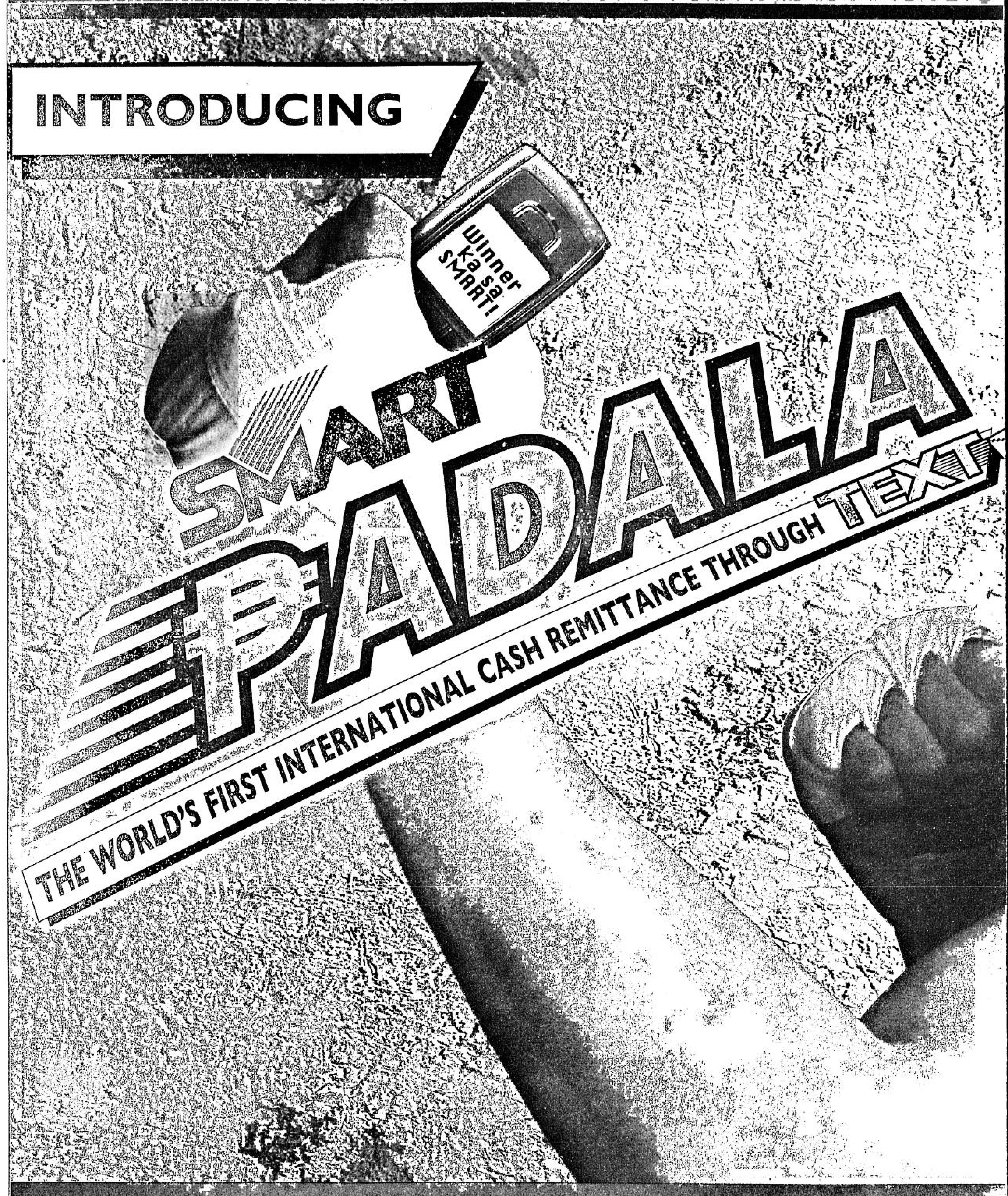
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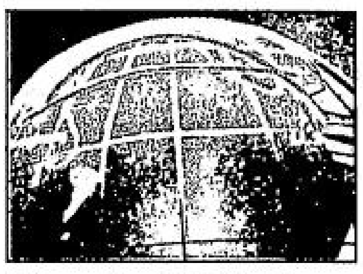

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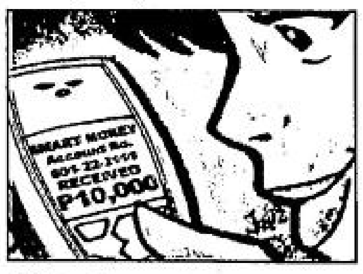
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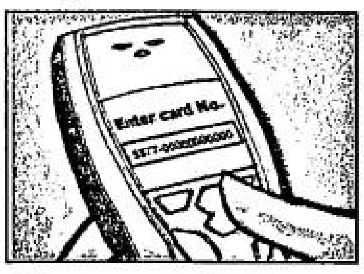
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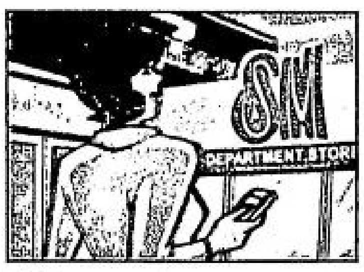
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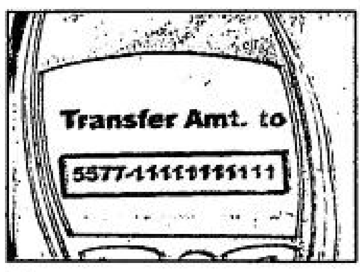
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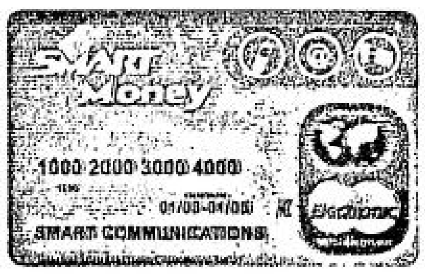

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ISSN 0116-2642
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
Vol. 19 No. 242

OPINION

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THE PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER, INC. has its business and editorial offices at
•Chino Roces Ave corner Yague and Mascardo Sts., Makati City
•P.O. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office 1263 Makati City
•Our telephone numbers are 897-8808 connecting all departments
•Editorial Fax 897-4793 / 897-4794 •Advertising 897-4807
•Circulation 527-3342 / 527-3348 / 528-0183 / 528-0186 and 528-0213 / Fax: 528-02-34.
•100% soy ink•

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The twins

EDITORIAL

SOMETIME later this week, the once-conjoined twins Carl and Clarence Aguirre will emerge from heavy sedation to face each other for the first time. The doctors attending to them are naturally anxious to find out what the two-year-olds will make of one another. The rest of the world, however, already knows what to make of them.

They are miracle babies, who have restored our collective faith in the humanly possible.

At a time when the news is dominated by yet another terror alert, yet more violence in Iraq and the Middle East, yet more scandal or outrage in the government, the 17-hour operation that finally separated the twins was a tonic for a dispirited public.

The operation wasn't the first (it was the fourth since October). It won't be the last either (the delicate reconstruction of the boys' skulls may require three follow-up operations). The twins' vital signs continue to be "strong and stable," but it is too early to declare that they are safe from complications. And the greatest risk in the separation of twins joined at the head remains a constant: one of the two may suffer brain damage or die.

And yet it is already possible to call the series of surgeries a success. For those of us who know next to nothing about brain surgery, the fourth operation alone already qualifies as a miracle: it is an event that does not fit the usual categories of understanding. "This is an enormously complex case," neurosurgeon James Goodrich, the medical team leader, told reporters in a post-surgery news conference. During the operation, he added, the doctors had to reassess medical strategy "every 15 minutes."

The operation revealed the limitations of technology, even of the state-of-the-art kind. Hours into the procedure, the doctors discovered for themselves what countless scans had failed to show. Instead of merely touching, the boys' brains were actually "anatomically linked," in Goodrich's words. The fused area was about two square inches big. After consultation, the doctors decided not to cut the connected parts in two, but to manually tease the brains apart.

"The hope is that the consequence [of separating fused brains] is minimum at best," Goodrich said. Initial signs have encouraged the medical team to believe that brain damage has in fact been avoided.

The first miracle, then: the tremendous learning of the experts, their years of experience and their delicacy of touch, their dedication and preparation, all these came together in an intricate effort to undo nature's caprice.

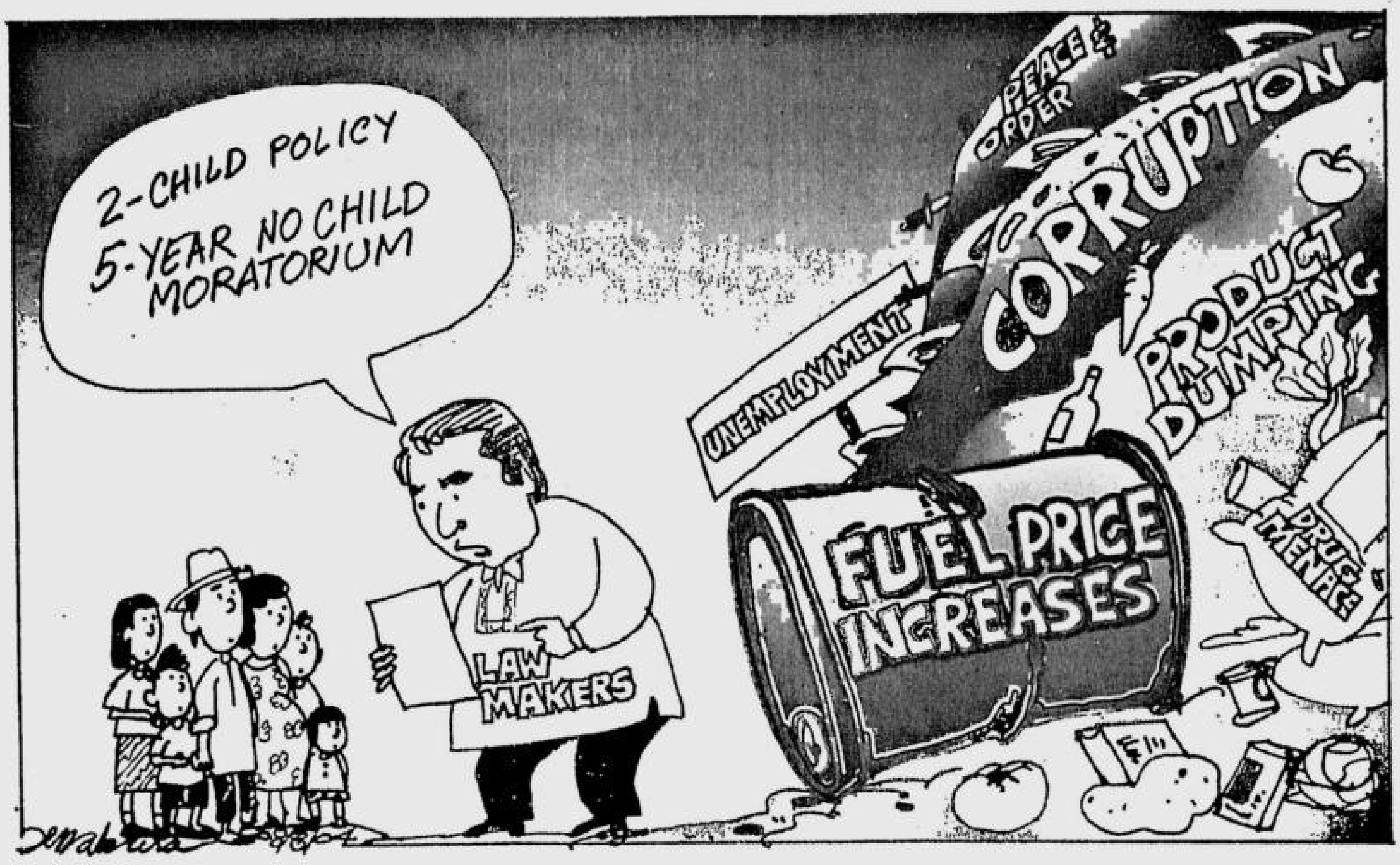
And then there is the other, perhaps more remarkable, miracle. The spirit of charity made the series of extremely expensive surgeries possible. Both hospitals involved—the Montefiore Medical Center in New York City, where the surgery was conducted, and the Blythedale Children's Hospital in Valhalla, where the twins stay and receive physical therapy in between operations—donated time and facilities. The team of 20 doctors, led by Goodrich and chief plastic surgeon David Staffenberg, donated their services. Other donors donated airfare, food, money.

Above all, there is the miracle of the twins themselves. More and more people around the world have begun to see the children's character. Despite their condition, the boys have been full of irrepressible cheerfulness, the very zest for life.

The decision to separate them gradually, instead of in one all-or-nothing session, at first seemed suitable only for the very fit, not mere infants. But after recovering from each operation, the twins have emerged with smiles on their faces.

Thus, in spite of volatile oil prices, another rash of assassinations, unremitting political infighting, and the latest tawdry showbiz quarrel, the news last week offered a glimmer of hope. Highly paid specialists who forgo profit; million-dollar equipment used not to kill or maim but to heal; people from all walks of life brought together by unity of purpose: the Aguirre twins have allowed us to see all these, and more.

The sense of possibility may yet be another miracle.



John Kerry and the Democratic Party

SEPARATE OPINION

Isagani A. Cruz

AS A Filipino who was born and grew up during the American regime, and more so because of the present influence of the United States in international affairs, I have a healthy interest in the politics of that country. That is why I was among the many of my generation who watched the Democratic Party national convention last week that nominated John Kerry and John Edwards to challenge the Republican team of George W. Bush and Dick Cheney in the elections next November.

The program featured many stirring and effective speeches, including those of Kerry's two daughters who each proved the value and validity of heredity. But although both of them showed they had inherited their father's fluency as public speakers, it was their Dad who carried and swayed the partisan audience to heights of euphoria and optimism over their new champion.

Kerry's speech was inspiring and optimistic. He promised that help was on the way with the Democratic Party taking over the White House and Congress. He cleverly played on words, as when he said the American people should stress family values by valuing families and the government should not wage war without a plan to win the peace. "We should not go to war because we want to," he said. "but because we have to." That was the way, he said, to win respect for and not fear of the United States.

Without naming names, although his target was quite clear, he accused the present administration of lies that led the country to war against Iraq. He pledged that as president he would discontinue the privileges of the National Guard and the state militia to avoid combat duty in foreign lands, an obvious reference to his presidential rival who comfortably stayed at home while other Americans fought and died in Vietnam. He also made a dig at the Presidents Bush, *pere* and *fils*, for their corporate ties to the Saudi royalty who, according to Michael Moore's "Fahrenheit 9/11," own about 7 percent of the United States.

At age 23, Kerry served in Vietnam, where he received several medals for gallantry in action. He later resumed his studies in Yale and soon became attorney general in Massachusetts before he was elected and is now on his 19th year as senator for that state. His idol is President Kennedy, also from Boston. He is married to the heiress of the Heinz millions who is known for her regular philanthropies. He stands six foot two and has a complete head of thick hair at age 60.

As you might already have guessed, I am for John Kerry against George W. Bush, not that it matters at all because I am not an American voter. My reasons, in case you are interested, are twofold.

The first is that I do not like the Bush family. President George H. W. Bush, the father, was a known supporter of Ferdinand Marcos. At the height of that tyrant's rule, then Vice President Bush visited the Philippines and echoing President Ronald Reagan, another sidekick of Marcos, praised the despot's government for "its adherence to democratic principles." Either he did not know what he was talking about, which was unlikely, or he was lying in his teeth.

George the son is another matter. I do not think he was validly elected President of the United States. His rival Al Gore won the popular vote, but the electoral vote in Florida, where Dubya's brother was the governor, was rigged to favor Bush. The US Supreme Court sustained the cheating. Gore recently said that it was the Supreme Court that elected George W. Bush but it is John Kerry who will later as president appoint its new members.

My other reason is that the Democratic Party has been more sympathetic to the Philippines than the Republicans. It was William McKinley who ordered the colonization of our country as the "manifest destiny" of the United States. Woodrow Wilson of the Democrats approved the Jones Law of 1916, otherwise known as the Philippine Autonomy Act. When the US Congress passed the Hare-Hawes-Cutting Bill that promised independence to the Philippines, it was vetoed by the Republican president, Herbert Hoover. It was later replaced by the Tydings-McDuffie Act under the presidency of his Democratic successor, Franklin D. Roosevelt. It was another Democratic president, Harry Truman, who withdrew American sovereignty over the Philippines in 1946 and sponsored our acceptance into the family of free nations.

This is not to say that the Republican Party exploited us but the Democratic Party did not. It also did but with less callousness than Wall Street that controlled the Republican Party and its reverence for the Almighty Dollar. Between Theodore Roosevelt and Franklin Roosevelt, it was the latter who looked with a friendlier and less materialistic eye on the Philippines.

And so this November, the American voters will decide between George W. Bush, their incumbent president, and John Kerry, his formidable opponent. It is a choice, as I see it, between the Ugly American that the world detests and a less arrogant United States, with its respect for human rights, the sovereignty of states, and the rule of law.

Ready? Get set. Go!

MOMENTS

Fr. Jerry M. Orbos, SVD

DID you hear the story about a doctor who told his patient that she had only six weeks to live? Shocked, the patient said: "Oh doctor, this is all so sudden. I don't even know how I can pay you in six weeks." "In that case, I am giving you another six months to live," the doctor replied.

***

In today's Gospel (Lk. 12, 35-40), Jesus reminds us to be ready, for the Son of Man will come at an hour we do not expect. No one knows when death will come, and no one and nothing can stop it when it comes. In the face of the finality and suddenness of death, Jesus' advice is simple: Don't stop it. Just be ready for it.

Are you ready? Are you set to go?

***

I remember how much I prayed to God to keep my father alive while he was at the ICU in 1987. I kept vigil every night at St. Luke's Hospital, bargaining with God, to let my father live a little bit more, for after all I was His priest who had served Him all these years. I even reminded him I had blessed and anointed others who needed my priestly service at the emergency room, hoping that I could "bribe" God to let my father live just a little bit more. But all to no avail. There is nothing in us that could stop death. What made it more painful for me was that I wasn't there at his deathbed when he passed away at 3 p.m. of June 23, 1987. That was the only afternoon when I left the hospital to join my fellow priests for a meal, and when I came back, the nurses were already removing the tubes and the needles from his lifeless body. That sad afternoon, I accepted in a very personal way that death is real and final, a ruthless thief and snatcher, ugly and unstoppable.

***

Someone hit the nail on the head when he said that when we focus too much on our appearance, we tend to forget our "disappearance." We all will die. None of us will leave this world alive. We all know that we will make the journey into the "great beyond" sooner or later, and yet we do not prepare and make provisions for the journey. Many of us are so busy putting up buildings on the shore and storing up treasures in them, and we forget to build and equip the ship that will bring us into the sea.

***

Am I ready? I don't know. Are you? All that is asked of us is to do our best, our very best, while we are still alive. The bottom line is that at the end of our lives, when we finally face our Creator, if we can tell Him, "Lord you know me. You know everything about me. I am a sinner, but I have done my very best, to you I leave the rest," then we have hope, we have peace. Ready or not, in the end, we entrust ourselves into God's mercy and love.

***

There is a story about a priest who was trying to say some words of comfort to the relatives of the deceased. He used the analogy of the peanut. Pointing to the coffin, he said, "Actually, what we see here is the shell, the nut is gone!" Oh, oh. Come to think of it, many of us are really nuts in the sense that we pursue foolish passions, dreams and illusions in our lifetime.

***

Have you had a "wake-up call" recently? From time to time, at opportune times, God sends across our way moments, people and experiences to wake us up from our comfortable slumber, to remind us of what is really important and basic in our lives. Trials, disappointments, accidents, illnesses, separations, setbacks, death and near death experiences make us go back to God's intended flight plan for us. A wake-up call is God's way of saying "I love you," in a painful way, to wake us up.

***

The time to love is now, not later, not tomorrow, not next year. The best preparation for a happy death is a well spent life, so full of meaning, service and love. Loving is like planting trees. The best time to plant them was 10 years ago. The second best time to plant them is now.

***

Hellen Keller, when asked as to what happens to our lost opportunities, replied that perhaps our guardian angels gather them up to give them back when we shall have grown wiser and can use them rightfully. But what if we don't get the chance to grow older and wiser? Again, the message is clear: Do not postpone your loving; do not postpone your conversion.

***

Last Aug. 4, the Feast of St. John Vianney, we celebrated Priest's Day. On my way down from a sick call at Cardinal Santos Hospital, I met a couple at the elevator who casually informed me that Msgr. Alfredo Rodriguez was at Room 504. Being Priests' Day and all, I went up to bless him and ask for his blessing. On my way down, guess what? I met someone who told me she was going to visit Fr. Carlos Returico at Room 510, and up I went again. And, as I was going down again, I met the family of Fr. Joey Paras, SDB, so, you guessed it, up I went again. Yes, the time to love is now, for we know not the time nor the hour!

***

A moment with the Lord:

Lord, help me to be always ready, and always to get set, because anytime, I can go. Amen.

Ateneo's 'El Cid'

REVEILLE

Ramon J. Farolan

IN THE 11TH century, a Spanish soldier, Rodrigo Diaz, emerged as the prototype of the noble and heroic Castillian who defended his king against Moorish invaders. His life story became the basis of a popular movie in the '60s with Charlton Heston playing the role of El Cid Campeador, the Lord Champion. Starring with him was the voluptuous Sophia Loren, one of the great beauties of her time. If we go by the screen version, it was a captured Moor prince who bestowed the title "El Cid" on Rodrigo in recognition of his humanity and chivalry on the battlefield. The end sees a mortally wounded "El Cid" continuing to lead his soldiers into battle turning away the Moors who were besieging the city of Valencia. He is considered a national hero of Spain.

* * *

After a miserable Philippine Basketball League (PBL) season which saw the Ateneo players of Lee Pipes in the cellar position, few gave them much of a chance in the UAAP. Lost to the professional league were former stars Rich Alvarez and Wesley Gonzales and more importantly, coach Joel Banal. A rookie with a kilometric name, more associated with pelotaris rather than basketball coaches, was installed as the team mentor. While Sandy Arespacochaga had given Ateneo a championship in the junior competitions, there was some concern as to how he would fare with the big boys. The fact that veteran PBA coach Norman Black was hired as a consultant seemed to support this apprehension. But in the games which followed Sandy proved that he was more than up to the challenge.

Surprisingly, Ateneo's first victory of the season was over its arch rival De La Salle University, breaking 16 years of opening game triumphs by the Green Archers. This was followed by wins over the UE Red Warriors and the UST Tigers. Then the unthinkable happened. In its fourth match against their Katipunan neighbors—the UP Maroons—Larry Fonacier, Ateneo's steady captain and gifted scorer, was driving for a lay up early in the second quarter when his left knee collapsed from a torn anterior cruciate ligament (ACL), requiring surgery for its repair. The injury effectively ended a five-year UAAP career which included a stint with the 2002 championship team.

For Larry, who last year won the sportsmanship award given by sportswriters covering the UAAP beat, it was a great disappointment and setback. In his last year with the Eagles, he was hoping to bring home one more championship crown to Loyola Heights.

In its fourth game against Adamson University, Ateneo appeared to be on the losing end of a rout, trailing the Falcons by as much as 20 points. But in the last quarter, as though inspired by the spirit of their injured leader, the team rallied to beat the Falcons on a last second jumper by L.A. Tenorio, who later told the fans that it was a shot for Larry.

Since his injury, the Ateneo campus has been filled with "Larry" banners and streamers. His number 14 uniform was on T-shirts worn by Ateneo fans, and the Moro Lorenzo Sports Center was decorated with a giant poster of Larry Fonacier. Never in the history of Ateneo sports has an individual been showered with so much adulation and affection, as messages poured in from fans around the country expressing concern while praying for his speedy recovery and continuing success in the future. Even the FEU Tamaraws, the UAAP defending champions, sent him a note to wish him well. To my mind, that is sportsmanship at its highest levels. Some men gloat over the misfortune of their opponents; the truly noble warriors lend a helping hand to a fallen foe.

Recently, in a homily during a Mass to celebrate the Feast of St. Ignatius of Loyola, Ateneo president Bienvenido Nebres spoke of Larry Fonacier: "Sports commentaries in the newspapers have compared the impact of Larry's injury to something like death—*parang patay na ang* Ateneo team. But Larry was not despondent nor did he dwell on his injury and disappointment. He was there to encourage and cheer on his team. He talked to each member of the team, telling them to carry one another and to carry the team. In the energy and intensity of the practice session, I saw that he continued to carry them. In a time of injury and pain and the cross, Larry chose life and chose blessing. He chose to give life and to carry his team." Last Thursday, Ateneo scored its fifth straight win at the expense of National University. Today, the Loyola cagers will be up against their toughest opponent, the FEU Tamaraws. Like the wounded warrior El Cid, Larry Fonacier will be around to rally his teammates and continue to be a source of inspiration and strength for the Blue Eagles and their multitude of followers.

* * *

The Bureau of Internal Revenue Centennial celebration last week was a pleasant departure from previous anniversary rites. Instead of the usual figures and statistics on revenue performance, the evening was highlighted by a musical presentation tracing the historical development of the agency from 1904—when an American, John Hord, was first named to head the Bureau—up to the present. Instead of honoring the top taxpayers of the nation, recognition was given to those companies whose payments showed remarkable increases from 2002 to 2003. The top three in this category were: SM Prime Holdings, GMA Network and Bauang Private Power Corp.

Attending in full force to lend support to BIR Commissioner Willy Parayno were his classmates from the Philippine Military Academy Class of 1970, led by PNP Chief Hermogenes Ebdane Jr.

A missionary's story

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

ONE of the Divine Word fathers who helped us observe the nine days of prayers for my late sister Neneng was Fr. Bebs Alcober, SVD. Now based in Christ the King Seminary, his life story is quite fascinating and I thought it deserves a column all its own.

Since he said Mass for us on a Saturday, Father Bebs ended up celebrating the same Mass for Sunday, explaining that he decided to hold an "anticipated" Sunday Mass for those who would not be joining us the next day. The Gospel for that Mass happened to be on Jesus' message about the futility of acquiring and accumulating material possessions, which in Heaven would not count for much when God starts weighing the value of one's life. And this, said the rotund Father Bebs, is something he knows to be true, based on his own life experience.

Father Bebs said from his days of youth, he always had "a dream of serving in Africa." An overseas missionary posting, it must be pointed out, is highly coveted in a missionary order like the Society of the Divine Word. For a seminarian, like Father Bebs who admitted he wasn't one of the better performers—academically speaking—to plan for an African mission was, to put it gently, rather unrealistic.

But imagine his surprise, he recounted, when, after his ordination, his superiors told him that they were making his dream come true: He would be sent to Africa as a missionary.

Before being shipped to Africa, Father Bebs and other Filipino confreres spent some months in Belgium to learn French. He recounted laughingly, "since we spent most of our time together, we observed that while our English and Filipino had improved, we learned very little French."

* * *

THEIR superiors then decided that the only way the missionaries could learn the language in their new places of assignment was for them to be immersed in the culture. Father Bebs was assigned to the Democratic Republic of Congo, at that time known as Zaire and before then Belgian Congo. In the capital of Kinshasa, Father Bebs spent more time brushing up on his French and learning the four major languages in the country and the region, including Kiswahili, which is spoken in 14 African countries.

"But I was restless and kept asking my superiors to send me out to the jungle," Father Bebs recalls. Congo, he notes, is very rich in natural resources, including diamond mines and rare wildlife, but the poverty of the people is appalling. Finally, his superiors gave in and assigned him to a remote area, where no Catholic missionary had tread, deep in the forests of Congo.

"There were hardly any roads or means of transportation," Father Bebs recalls. Once, as leeches attached themselves to him while he was fording a river, he cried out to God: "Lord, I know I asked to be assigned to a mission in the African jungle, but did you have to listen to me?"

The worst news, recounted Father Bebs, was finding out, when he finally arrived in his new parish, that his by-then serviceable French and rudimentary knowledge of the other Congolese languages were virtually useless in the area. The people spoke an unfamiliar tongue, known as Dengese, and this Father Bebs had to learn on his own, otherwise he wouldn't be able even to say Mass!

* * *

THOSE of you who've read "The Poisonwood Bible," might have an idea of what Father Bebs was up against. The novel, an account of an American missionary family in Congo, was set in a tumultuous juncture of the country's history, as the fledgling republic sought not just to establish democracy after decades of Belgian colonialism, but also to find an independent stance in a world torn by the Cold War. "The Poisonwood Bible" details the events leading up to the assassination of Marxist President Patrice Lumumba, which some say was carried out with the assistance of the Belgians and the Central Intelligence Agency, and the military takeover led by Joseph Mubutu.

Father Bebs arrived in Congo at a time of relative calm, during the term of Mubutu, who restored peace and order but was notorious for corruption.

But national political events had little meaning at this time for Father Bebs, who was busy learning Dengese, translating the Bible and other liturgy into this language, and building a church and mission post. At one point, he says, he was raising over 500 heads of cattle, as well as pigs, chickens and other livestock all to finance a missionary hospital and school. Father Bebs, the simple boy from Leyte, had finally found his "African mission."

* * *

BUT eventually his African idyll had to come to an end. In 1997, Congo became the battleground of what some commentators call "Africa's World War," as refugees from war-torn Rwanda poured through its borders, and Rwandan troops, with support from Uganda, invaded the country. Soon, Congo was torn by ethnic strife, warfare and upheaval, and even Father Bebs, in his jungle mission, was not spared for long from the violence.

Beset from all sides—from government soldiers, rebels and foreign troops—Father Bebs was forced to flee his mission, crossing the border to another mission. "I stayed there for a few months, hoping to be able to go back and get the mission up and running again. To be honest, I didn't want all my years of hard work to go to waste. But eventually, my superiors decided to send me home, especially after I developed a heart ailment."

Today, Father Bebs is teaching at Christ the King and taking things relatively easy, though his days in Congo, his livestock, and his mission are not very far from his mind, or from his stories. Father Bebs knows, more than most, about the futility of amassing treasures on earth, when our task is really to build up treasures in Heaven.

Values

PUBLIC LIVES

Randy David

ON APRIL 30 this year, President Macapagal-Arroyo signed Executive Order 314 creating a Presidential Commission on Values Formation (PCVF), which, we are told, she herself will head. To this new commission have been invited, as members, the leaders of the country's various religious communities. EO 314 is being billed as a component of Ms Arroyo's package of anti-corruption and good governance initiatives. The mandate it gives to the commission is "to establish a strong moral foundation for moral value formation in the government bureaucracy."

This is nothing but platitudinous rhetoric. An idea like the PCVF is yet another example of the politician's habit of confronting complex problems by lip service. A nation cannot build new values by means of a presidential order. It can only do so by altering its whole institutional practice.

Values are the things that a community desires or considers desirable. They constitute the fabric of a society, providing its unity and coherence. Values are not invented overnight. They are slowly woven over time, passed on to succeeding generations who use them as guides in their quest for solutions to the problems of living.

We are born into a world of values. Whether we are aware of it or not, we are incarnations of values. There is little we can do about values except to become conscious of their presence and impact on our lives, to criticize or celebrate them, to unlearn those that weaken us, and to promote those that strengthen us. Nietzsche says that we must treat values as our "self-defense and necessity." One acquires values by watching others live by them, not by listening to sermons about values. Value talk is cheap. What is valuable is example.

Sociologists investigating the values of a given society do not rely on what moral elders say or preach, or even on what people say to explain their actions. They do so by observing behavior and by looking for signs of the preferences that actually orient the everyday lives of people.

By the same token, a meaningful program to build strong moral values cannot begin by assembling a team of religious leaders and asking them what our values should be. I think many of us already know what our values should be, though we may disagree on the importance we assign to these values. But it is one thing to profess values, and another thing to live by them. I think our main problem is that there is a large gap between the values we claim to believe in and the values that actually guide our actions.

Our Constitution's Declaration of Principles and State Policies may be read as a litany of our nation's core values. Yet the conduct of our national life is antithetical to almost everything the Constitution celebrates. We don't take our constitutional values seriously. It is obvious that enshrining them in the nation's basic charter does not guarantee their realization. The problem is not their lack of clarity. The problem is their irrelevance to our national life.

The fault is not in the values themselves, or in our genes or stars. It is simply that the conditions that make it possible for us to live up to our Constitution's value aspirations are not there. We actually live by another set of values that are more congenial to the kind of society we are, more feudal than democratic, more traditional than modern, reflecting the social instincts of a highly unequal and underdeveloped nation.

Our failure to abolish graft and corruption mirrors these conditions. We have not been lacking in high-mindedness. The 1987 Constitution devotes a whole article to the accountability of public officers. Section 1 of Art. 11 is emphatic: "Public office is a public trust. Public officers and employees must at all times be accountable to the people, serve them with utmost responsibility, integrity, loyalty and efficiency, act with patriotism and justice, and lead modest lives."

These are progressive values practiced in modern societies, where public office is won either by honest election or by appointment based on merit; and treated not as a lucrative position but as a vocation, not as a means for advancing private interests but as an instrument for achieving the public good, not as the exclusive right of a few wealthy and well-connected families but as a privilege open to every citizen.

Such public values are difficult to enforce in a society where the masses of the people are poor and dependent on the power, protection and patronage of the few. The problem of graft and corruption is rooted in the very nature of our political and economic system. The values we denounce as the driving force of graft and corruption are the same ones that build solidarity in traditional societies like ours. Today we are compelled to re-examine these values because they clash with the requirements of modern nationhood and with the rules of participation in a complex world economy.

A values commission, if it is not to be a vacuous creation, should not begin by prescribing and promoting values. Rather it should be investigating those operative values that actually lie behind the different practices of our public life. It should be asking why these practices and institutional patterns persist, and who benefits from them. Only when we have come to terms with graft and corruption—not so much as a violation of values but rather as the direct result of a parallel set of values now increasingly obsolete—can we take the first step toward freeing our society from its grip.

* * *

Comments to davidinquirer@yahoo.com

The Malaysian model

EYE ON ASIA

Karim Raslan

AS THE Philippines debates its relationship with the United States, Malaysia is trying to navigate past its once stormy ties with Washington.

Malaysian Prime Minister Abdullah Badawi has just returned from a successful tour of three important western capitals—Washington D.C., Paris and London.

In all three countries, much was made of Malaysia's ability to manage civil society issues and multiracial politics, as well as a majority Muslim population.

Given the acute failure of US-led initiatives in the Middle East, many American policymakers are wondering whether Malaysia, with its democracy, high growth rates and remarkable peacefulness, could serve as a model for the Arab world. Certainly George W. Bush's grand plans for a democratic Middle East could do with a success story to back up his viewpoint.

However, having just returned from completing an *umrah* (*the mini-haj*) in Saudi Arabia, I'd have to caution the optimists in Washington. Malaysia does not possess the key to unlocking the Arab world. If anything, the influence works in the other direction.

For countries like Malaysia and Indonesia, which are on the periphery of the Islamic world, the challenge, if any, is to balance and moderate the Arab—and especially the Saudi—impact on our lives and our politics.

Southeast Asian Muslims share the faith, but with our cultural roots in Hinduism, Buddhism and animism, we have precious little in common with our brothers and sisters in the Middle East.

Still, my intense and exhilarating experience in the Holy Cities of Mecca and Medina amid tens of thousands of fellow Muslims from across the globe has made me realize the immense power of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Its reach is twofold: the first is oil. With close to 25 percent of known global reserves, the Kingdom remains a vital reservoir for future economic growth. The second is all too often overlooked, but in time will be more important: Saudi Arabia remains the linchpin of the Islamic world.

Imagine, for example, the power and the influence of the *imams* of the two main mosques in Mecca and Medina. For decades now, they have been in a position to define the tenets of Islamic orthodoxy, promoting their own Wahabi interpretations of the faith.

Moreover, Saudi *ulama* are able to voice their concerns through their prayers that reach out to tens if not hundreds of thousands of Muslims every day, five times a day.

In the week that I was there, I noticed the emotional and overwrought tone of the *imams'* prayers. Given the possibility of attacks against the Al-Aqsa mosque in Jerusalem, the likelihood of military intervention in Sudan and the American occupation of Iraq, the *ulama's* sense of perceived threat cannot be underestimated. These fears and anxieties were conveyed forcefully to everyone present.

Moreover, the numbers involved are significant. In 2003, some 4.5 million pilgrims descended on the Hijaz, with over two million conducting the Haj. It is estimated that by 2014, the numbers will have tripled to over 14 million.

Saudi Arabia is a country in the midst of transition. It faces internal tensions and after decades of near total control, the ruling Saud family is faced with numerous critical challenges. While the Kingdom is desperately trying to adjust to the altered circumstances, time is short.

There are external pressures from the Americans, who see the Kingdom as a center for radicalism and terrorism. Having ignored Saudi Arabia's internal politics for decades, Americans now want immediate reform.

In addition, the Kingdom has been unable to create a resilient non-oil economy. As a result, its fortunes are harnessed in perpetuity to the oscillations of the oil market. Per capita GDP fell from highs of $30,000 in the early 1980s to a desultory $6,000 in 1994, only to recover with the oil price spike to $9,500 in 2003.

Such dislocations create enormous strains on any society as people's expectations are upended and then dashed. Currently the Kingdom's government is trying to enforce a policy of "Saudisation" to reduce mounting unemployment and an unhealthy dependence on foreign labor. However, much of the indigenous population resents being forced to work in menial jobs.

On the political front, the long-term alliance between the royal family and the *ulama* is fraying. Allegations of corruption and nepotism are rife. The *ulama* are also divided over a host of issues, including American adventurism in the Gulf and the presence of non-Muslims in the Kingdom.

The absence of a genuine political discourse has driven the opposition—much of which is genuine and moderate—underground. Some with experience fighting the Soviets in Afghanistan have brought the violence back with them to Jiddah and Damman.

Thankfully, most Saudis are too comfortable to take to the streets. And while the level of resentment is real, the likelihood of an Iranian-style revolution is minimal.

For one billion Muslims, a smooth and gradual liberalization of Saudi Arabia is infinitely preferable to a democratic "big-bang." Moreover, it's foolish to think that Saudi Arabia, with its own peculiar challenges, can learn from Malaysia or anywhere else.

Bush's grand strategies will have to wait: evolution is better than revolution.

THEY SAID

Cold war

"At best, it is a cold war between groups which are friends on the surface."

—Rep. Imee Marcos, describing the relationship between the parties Lakas and Kampi

Outrage

"In a world order where globalization has become a mantra of world leaders and where national pride is often sacrificed at the altar of international cooperation, we should not lose our capacity for outrage. Otherwise, we will find ourselves morally and intellectually disarmed."

—Sen. Joker Arroyo, on Australia's criticism on RP's decision to withdraw its troops from Iraq

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TALK of the TOWN

Please send feedback to jsarmiento@inquirer.com.ph

Editor Juan V. Sarmiento Jr.

Is the air we breathe safe?

THE ANNOUNCEMENT of the Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) on July 27 that the quality of air in Metro Manila and neighboring provinces was "within the policy standards that safeguard human health and the environment" took the breath of many people away.

The EMB said data from eight monitoring stations did not exceed the guidelines for ambient air that the Clear Air Act had set. The Metro Manila Development Authority supported the EMB findings, saying that smoother traffic flow had contributed to cleaner air in the metropolis.

But after concerned citizens and the media challenged the findings, the EMB clarified that the data it gathered from June 21 to July 25 did not include results of the manually monitored air quality in hotspots like Edsa, Rizal Avenue and Taft Avenue.

The EMB then said on Aug. 3 that pollution levels in Makati, Quezon City and Valenzuela had gone up and "therefore, unhealthy and could cause respiratory illnesses."

With just four automatic monitoring stations in Metro Manila (Katipunan in Quezon City, Fort Bonifacio in Makati, Sta. Mesa in Manila and Valenzuela), the EMB can not just say that data from these stations will apply to the other 13 cities and municipalities in the metropolis.

Besides, the station in Quezon City is on the Ateneo de Manila University campus and the one in Makati is right inside the Army camp, areas known for their huge trees and expanses of greenery.

Sweeping generalizations from the EMB can be dangerous to one's health.

Blunder allows review of clean air program

By Von Hernandez
Toxics Campaigner, Greenpeace International

Five years after the enactment of the Clean Air Act (CAA), Metro Manila still ranks among the most polluted cities in the world. While the recent disclosure made by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources about the improving air quality in the metropolis has only invited scorn and ridicule from a skeptical public, the "blunder" offers us an opportunity to assess whether real progress has been achieved in the area of pollution control in the country.

In 2002, the World Bank said that air pollution in the country's urban areas was causing an estimated 2,000 premature deaths, 9,000 cases of chronic bronchitis, and 51 million days of respiratory illnesses each year. This translates to about $1.5 billion in terms of medical costs, lost wages and declining productivity.

It is doubtful if the situation has changed dramatically in the last two years. Rather than heralding a supposed improvement in the levels of air pollutants in the metropolis, a better indicator of positive change would be an across-the-board reduction in the above set of scary statistics. We would know that the air is getting cleaner when less people are suffering from pollution-induced respiratory ailments.

More recently, the World Health Organization chimed in with an even more alarming statistic: three million children under the age of five are dying each year worldwide because of polluted air and water and other environment-related hazards. To be really blunt about it, worsening levels of pollution are killing children.

While the victims of such toxic assaults remain nameless for most of us, the harsh reality stares us in the face—pollution is murder. For that matter, any increase in the level of pollutants and toxic emissions in the environment results in a higher death rate particularly for the most vulnerable sectors of the population, children and senior citizens. How much harm is acceptable?

The passage of the CAA has been correctly hailed as an environmental milestone. We know, however, that implementing the law in this country is fraught with the usual "challenges" that have become standard and obscenely acceptable excuses for the lackadaisical implementation of the law.

Excuses

We are already familiar with these litany of bureaucratic excuses—the failure of Congress to allocate the required resources for the proper execution of environmental programs, a consistently declining environmental budget, and conflicts with overriding economic interests.

This is not to say that because of poor implementation, nothing much has changed. Indeed we must recognize that by prohibiting the sale and use of leaded gasoline, the law has almost certainly resulted in the dramatic reduction of lead levels in the environment. By banning waste incineration, the law has prevented the generation of persistent, toxic substances like the cancer-causing dioxins and furans.

Despite these acknowledged gains, there are still alarming inadequacies in our current environmental programs that cannot simply be explained away by pointing to slashed environmental budgets and inadequate enforcement of laws.

In a sense, most of our attempts at environmental management have focused on controlling pollution after it already exists.

Wind and rain

We actually do little more than limit and manage the pollutants that are generated, hoping that the wind and the rains will help disperse and hence dilute these emissions away. But dilution and dispersion is no solution to pollution, especially with respect to toxic pollutants, which have no threshold levels (e.g particulate matter) and those which persist and build-up in the environment for long periods of time.

In short, ensuring compliance with standards alone is not enough to protect the public.

The traditional pollution control program has been marked by substantial noncompliance, delays and legalistic combat between parties rather than by a steady reduction of toxics.

Government must invest more in pollution prevention strategies, which aim to avoid rather than simply manage the problem. In concrete terms, this means further reducing pollutants in fuels, developing cleaner mass transport systems, discouraging the importation of dirty, second-hand engines and vehicles (which renders the anti-smoke belching operations meaningless), implementing the prohibition against the open burning of waste, and assisting industry in finding safer substitutes for toxic inputs in production.

The EMB report was misleading

By Frances Q. Quimpo
Executive Director, Center for Environmental Concerns-Philippines

Good news are welcome news, but only if they mirror the truth.

The public response to the misleading report of the Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) on the current state of the Metro Manila "airshed" manifests the public's wariness over government declarations of a cleaner air on account of the Clean Air Act (CAA). Thus, the EMB was forced to clarify its earlier outlandish report and give the exact picture: Metro Manila's air quality is far from being safe for people and environment.

But is the air in Metro Manila ever going to be safe? Can we nonetheless say that improvements are being made, and it is just that the condition is still a wee bit unsafe? That is not clear.

What is clear is that air pollution, along with other environmental ills in the country, cannot anymore be licked by gloating over a transient effect of a natural and seasonal occurrence, or by dealing with the symptoms rather than the very reasons why environmental problems come about.

Particularly in Metro Manila, air pollution continues to be a concern for reasons that define the shortcomings of the hardly implemented CAA in dealing with a social and environmental concern like air pollution. We identify three reasons:

- **Uneven development.** The concentration of industrial and commercial activities in urban centers like Metro Manila, which brings about related problems of congestion and high density of vehicles plying a limited number of roads, definitely worsens air pollution.

In Metro Manila, three million out of the five million registered vehicles in the country contribute a lot to the high levels of particulate matter in the air. And the number of vehicles in the metropolis continues to increase every year. Not to mention that, still, a great majority of industries that cause pollution crowd the Metro Manila airshed, which comprises the metropolis and adjoining provinces.

- **Flawed strategy of development.** The first reason is an offshoot of an economic model that perpetuates the backward and underdeveloped nature of the Philippine economy.

In an economy that emphasizes dependence on foreign investments and foreign markets, our environment, indeed our very future, bears costs, including high levels of air pollution, brought about by a flawed system. Although we have the natural resources to grow and develop economically in a self-sustaining and environmentally sound way, we do not control them. Instead, we let transnational corporations appropriate the resources for their profit.

Worse, the Philippines has become a willing host to dirty industries and hand-me-downs like junked engines from First World countries and transnational corporations whose activities and products are otherwise banned or regulated in their countries of origin.

- **Ecological destruction.** Inextricably tied to the problem of air pollution is the destruction of our ecosystems, especially the forests, that in turn exacerbates the two reasons cited earlier. The haze of pollutants hovering over Metro Manila skies (like the Aug. 2 INQUIRER front page photo) could be more easily managed if only the state of our forests and watersheds were maintained to their levels about 30 to 50 years ago.

Sadly, the carbon sink function of our forests has been all but gone with the destruction and continuing mismanagement of these resources.

In conclusion, managing air pollution entails not just a system of legislating, espousing, and showcasing initiatives in environmental protection and management. To be successful in arresting our problems, we need to seriously address the conditions that cause Philippine social, economic and ecological decay.

Mobilizing for cleaner air

By Julian D. Amador
Director, Environmental Management Bureau-DENR

Industrialization and modernization have significantly affected the quality of air that we breathe today. Air pollution adversely affects the environment and human health. It is significantly linked to various respiratory illnesses that affect children and the elderly.

Recognizing this urgency, the Clean Air Act was enacted to serve as a comprehensive policy-planning tool for air quality management.

The Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) is in charge of monitoring the quality of air, among other functions, with the use of the newly established network of ambient air quality monitoring stations. These monitoring stations are automatic and measure air pollutants on real-time basis.

These stations measure criteria pollutants such as carbon monoxide, nitrogen dioxide, sulfur dioxide, ozone, and PM 10 (particulate matter less than 10 microns in diameter) provided for in the Clean Air Act, as well as non-criteria pollutants such as benzene, xylene and toluene, and meteorological conditions like wind speed and direction, temperature, radiation and humidity, which influence the behavior of pollutants in the air.

The EMB released the results of its monitoring from June 21 to July 25. The results revealed that the criteria pollutants are within the guideline values. Take the case of the Ateneo Station, measurements for PM10 registered a reading of 70 micrograms per normal cubic meter (ug/Ncm) from July 5 to 11 and went down to 47 ug/Ncm from July 19 to 25. These readings as compared with the guideline value of 150 (ug/Ncm) for PM10, are still at acceptable levels provided for in the law. The same is true with all the other criteria pollutants as stressed in the report.

These findings do not contradict the World Bank report because its data was based in the 2001 monitoring of PM10, and the EMB report is for June to July of this year.

The eight automatic ambient air quality monitoring stations are part of the Metro Manila Air Quality Improvement Sector Development Program, which is funded by the Asian Development Bank. These eight stations are strategically located in different parts of the Metro Manila airshed, which covers the National Capital Region and parts of Regions III and IV-A.

These are in Ateneo-Katipunan in Quezon City, Clark Air Base-Pampanga, Los Baños-Laguna, Namria-Fort Bonifacio, PUP-Sta. Mesa, Valenzuela, Cavite, and Batangas. The stations are far from roads and highways to avoid bias to roadside emissions as they measure ambient air, which is a mixture of all sources of pollution from industry, mobile and area sources.

In addition, there are 12 manually operated monitoring stations which measure Total Suspended Particulates (TSP) emitted by mobile sources such as cars, buses and jeepneys.

These are strategically located in major thoroughfares such as those in Buendia in Makati, Valenzuela City Hall, Edsa-National Printing Office, Pasig-Laguna Lake Development Authority, Manila-DOH, and Pasay City Hall, with Ateneo de Manila University and Parañaque-Severina measuring PM10.

Results from the monitoring done from January to June indicated that TSP exceeded allowable levels of 230 ug/Ncm in the stations of Makati, Valenzuela, East Avenue-Edsa and MMDA-Edsa.

TSP are small particulates suspended in the air which include dust, smoke, metallic and mineral particulates, soot, mist and acid fumes.

The EMB is still seeking support from the national government to strengthen its capacity to implement the law and effectively monitor air quality. Its air quality management section lacks the personnel to attend to air quality monitoring concerns nationwide. There is also a need to purchase and install additional automated monitoring stations in different parts of the country. At present, the EMB operates a total of 63 manual air monitoring stations outside Metro Manila, which measure TSP, and only two automatic monitoring stations being operated in Cebu and Cagayan de Oro City.

Part of the monitoring and enforcement activities of the EMB are being strengthened such as the designation of airsheds. To date, the DENR-EMB has designated 12 airsheds in Luzon, the Visayas and Mindanao. Airsheds refer to areas with common weather or meteorological conditions and sources of pollution such as industries or vehicles, which affect the diffusion of pollution in the atmosphere.

The EMB has also institutionalized the system of submission of self-monitoring reports by industrial firms. Likewise, the installation of Continuous Emission Monitoring Systems (CEMS) is also gaining ground. As of 2003, eight power plants and two petrochemical and two cement plants had installed their CEMS, which are equipment required under the Clean Air Act that monitor the emissions of a particular industrial firm.

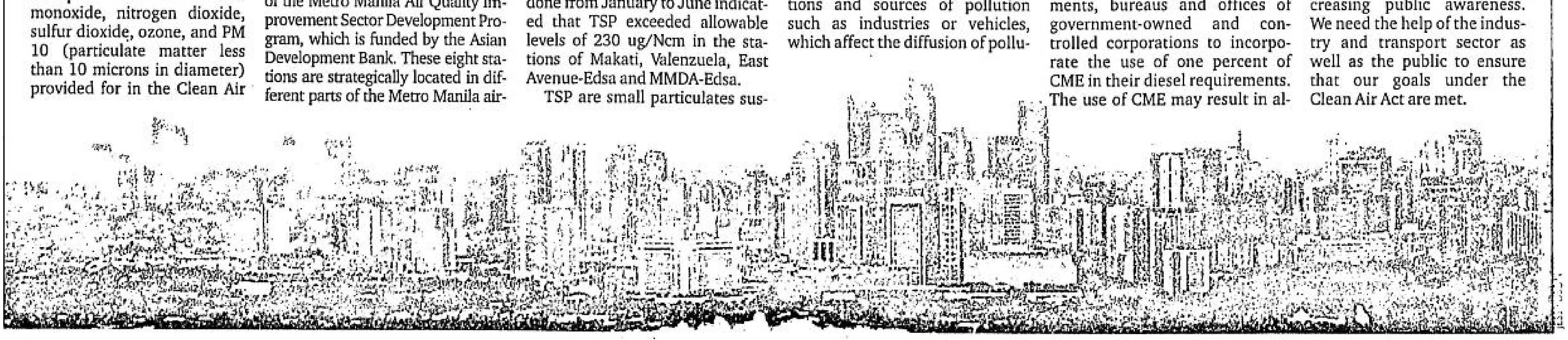
Other government agencies have made significant contributions to clean the air. The Department of Energy (DOE), implemented the phase-out of lead in gasoline in 2000, lowered aromatics in January 2003 and lowered the sulfur content of industrial and automotive diesel as early as November of the same year.

Alternative fuels are also being promoted. The DOE is urging vehicle owners to use coco methyl ester (CME) as additive and compressed natural gas to help clean the air. Memorandum Circular No. 55 has directed all departments, bureaus and offices of government-owned and controlled corporations to incorporate the use of one percent of CME in their diesel requirements. The use of CME may result in almost 65 percent reduction in smoke emission.

The Department of Transportation and Communications through the Land Transportation Office started in 2003 smoke-emission testing before vehicles could be registered. For its part, the Department of Health is intensifying the promotion of non-burn technologies such as autoclave and microwave disinfection systems for the treatment of healthcare waste. Incinerators have been banned to dispose of hospital and medical wastes since July 2003.

Various programs have also been initiated to drum up awareness and increase participation in air quality improvement activities. One of these is the Smoke Free Edsa campaign launched in October 2003. Eight teams were deployed to apprehend smoke belchers that pass along Edsa.

Non-government organizations and the private sector have also reacted positively to the government's call for increasing public awareness. We need the help of the industry and transport sector as well as the public to ensure that our goals under the Clean Air Act are met.



The One Algon Place Foundation, Inc.

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An excellent rehabilitation center opens

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Message for the One Algon Place Foundation TRC

Let me extend my congratulations to those who initiated the establishment of the One Algon Place Foundation, treatment and Rehabilitation Center. I believe that the establishment of such facilities is a positive move to address the growing concern of drug abuse and related problem.

Today, communities demand a range of treatment and rehabilitation services due to the number of regular and occasional dangerous drug abusers in the country. Republic Act 9165 or the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs act of 2002 mandates the Department of Health (DOH) to establish rehabilitaion centers nationwide. however, the need for private sector support cannot be overemphasized. Effective treatment and rehabilitation requires investment of financial and human resources and many countries, including the Philippines, must rely on the private sector to allocate sufficient assets and develop fully comprehensive system.

The DOH is currently developing treatment systems and services that reflect the health, social and community infrastructures into which, they will be introduced. The treatment program proposed by the Foundation, will complement and link with existing health, welfare and legal networks. This endeavor will maximize efficiency in the use of limited resources, as well as facilitate the integration of drug abuse recovery into existing community services.

In investing in treatment and rehabilitation, the Foundation showed sound judgment in human and economic terms with the ultimate goal of bringing back productivity of the dependent. I welcome The One Algon Place Foundation Treatment and Rehabilitation Center into the growing number of facilities moving towards a DRUG FREE REPUBLIC!

MANUEL M. DAYRIT, M.D., MSc
Secretary of Health

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MESSAGE

My esteemed greetings to Mr. Rudin A. Gonzales Jr. for putting up **The One Algon Place Foundation Inc. (TOAPFI)** drug and alcohol treatment and rehabilitation center at Brgy. Mamatid, Cabuyao, Laguna.

This world-class drug rehabilitation center is a giant step and an immeasurable contribution to our common goal and collective efforts of curbing drug abuse problems in our society. Your selfless dedication and deep concern is a moving inspiration that will reverberate in every person's consciousness. This remarkable affection for those with drugs and alcohol problems is a legacy that will continue to inflame our passion to achieve genuine progress.

Your unconditional efforts are testament of your commitment to serve your community. Indeed, you are doing much more anyone can give you credit for. TOAPFI will definitely complement the Provincial Government's priority programs and projects in our fight against illegal drugs. The town of Cabuyao and the whole province of Laguna is very fortunate to have TOAPFI as partner in community development and nation building.

You can be confident of my utmost support in TOAPFI's noble undertakings. Through His divine guidance, let us continue to be more vigilant and work together for more promising future. "KAYANG-KAYA PAGSAMA-SAMA!"

God bless.

TERESITA S. LAZARO
Governor

Rudin George A. Gonzales Jr.
Chairman of the Board

Board of Advisers

Dr. Baltazar Reyes
Psychiatric Consultant

Dr. Rosendo P. Sualog
Executive Consultant

Msgr. Ernie Joaquin
Spiritual Adviser

Msgr. Jose Bernardo
Value Formation

Dr. Doroteo M. Almendral
Public Relations

Arthur Munsayac
Risk Management Consultant

Wilhelm G. Ortaliz
Trade & Industry

Marilyn D. Pio
Nutritionist

Dr. Celso Fernandez Jr.
Security Consultant

Atty. Roberto A. Demigillo
Legal Counsel

DOH ACCREDITATION

Department of Health

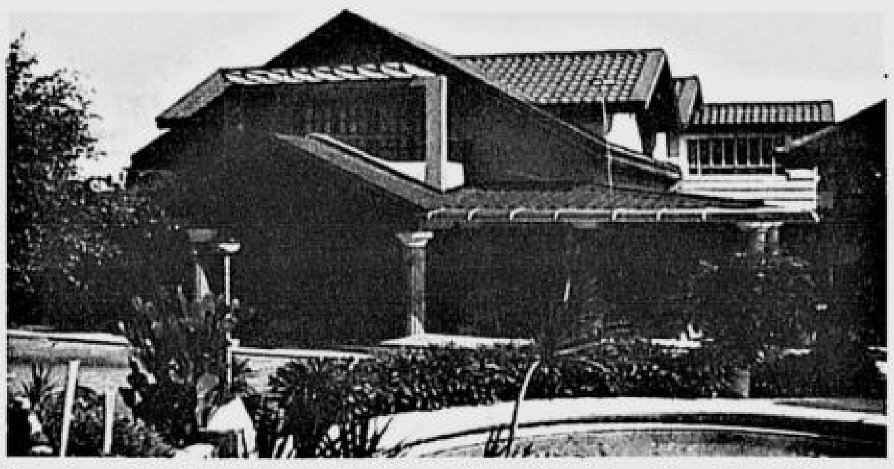
Certificate of Accreditation of Drug Abuse Treatment and Rehabilitation Center

THE ONE ALGON PLACE FOUNDATION, INC. DRUG & ALCOHOL ABUSE REHABILITATION CENTER

The One Algon Place, first in Luzon accredited by the DOH

THe One Algon Place Foundation Inc. **(TOAPFI)** has what it takes to be an excellent drug & alcohol treatment and rehabilitation center equipped with complex modern facilities.

It is the first rehabilitation center in Luzon accredited by the Department of Health. TOAPFI is now in full swing to admit drug dependents and alcoholics and is ready to hold its inauguration soon with a theme: **Serving Patients, Serving Families, and Serving the Nation.** It has this vision: a complex of world-class state-of-the-art facilities and globally recognized dynamic and quality program for drug dependents and alcoholics to recover for the betterment of the society. Its mission is to establish a distinctively Filipino treatment & rehabilitation center with modern facility and quality recovery program for drug dependents and alcoholics to restore or even improve their value-laden family and community relations moving forward for a strong republic.



Facade of RZG function hall building of The One Algon Place Foundation Inc. which will soon hold its grand opening and inauguration.

Serving Patients, Serving Families, Serving the Nation

FACILITIES

The facility is a high-end residential-like setting wherein the 130-bed dormitories for male and female clients are designed to effectively fit their needs and convenience. The hugeness of the facilities is justified as it is situated in a one-hectare lot with such amenities as swimming pool, sauna, gym and courts for basketball and volleyball. It has a lagoon where the residents can do therapeutic activities like fishing and boating.

There are therapy room, counseling room, conference hall, lecture room, medical clinic, library, store, mess hall, vocational shop, music room and chapel.

The facility is urbanely designed though in a rural place, and it is accessible to any type of public or private transportation. The menu is prepared under the supervision of a dietician, thus meals served are of high nutritional value.

PROGRAM AND SERVICES

TOAPFI employs a unique eclectic modality, combining concepts based mainly on the spiritual tenets of '12 Steps' fellowships, Therapeutic Community (TC) and multi-disciplinary team approach. The structured program is comprehensive and filled with daily activities focused on value formation, behavioral change and spiritual growth that will lead the patients to a healthy, happy and productive life.

Among the services and activities are drug dependency examination, physical and medical examination, individual counseling, group therapy, lectures and seminars on relevant topics, conjoint therapy, '12 Steps' fellowship meetings, Steps workbook session, therapy for families and significant others or co-dependents, values and spiritual reformation, skills development and talent enhancement, indoor and outdoor sports and recreation, scheduled and random drug tests, residential care, and 'round-the-clock security. Crisis intervention is available on a 24-hour basis.

FAMILY PROGRAM & AFTERCARE

The families and significant others have to learn their needs as co-dependents, tough love, the art of letting go, emotional detachment, true sense of helping versus enabling, the disease concept of addiction, applicable teachings and slogans of '12 Steps' and other support groups, etc. They, too, need therapy mainly because they have been painfully affected by somebody else's addiction. TOAPFI's aftercare program is a continuing service to recovering drug dependents after being discharged implemented by an aftercare counselor. It is not a license to say that once they have gone through with the confinement in the center, they are totally recovered. They still have to continue the program and TOAPFI will ensure that the residents are followed-up, visited in their homes or go back to the center and avail of the services. This is primarily to prevent relapse, for them to shy away from the continuing menace of drug addiction because of possible recurring craving experiences and develop further their worth as dignified persons, and be truly productive again.

PROGRAM DURATION

Primary rehabilitation, wherein the patients are confined, lasts for a minimum of six months, while aftercare and follow-up is conducted for at least 18 months. The length of the program is pursuant to the provisions of Article VIII, R.A. 9165, otherwise known as the " Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002". The span of stay is largely determined by the symptom profile, psycho-social stressors and overall assessment of the resident's progress.

REHABILITATION TEAM

The center is manned by skilled and qualified administrative and technical staff providing services 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The rehabilitation team is composed of an executive directress, DDB- and DOH-accredited physician, psychiatrist, social worker, psychologist, nurse, occupational therapist, spiritual adviser and house parent. As experts in their own fields, they employ the most appropriate and helpful techniques available today. Aside from the above personnel, the center also taps the services of consultants specializing in the fields of psychiatry, psychology, medicine, education and trade.

PATIENT'S RIGHT

TOAPFI recognizes the patient's right to life, to be treated humanely with respect and dignity, being a sick person who did not choose to carry the burden of misery and despair, having been afflicted with a no-fault disease of addiction, and not to be treated like a criminal.

A GREAT REHABILITATION CENTER

Dr. Rosendo P. Sualog, an awarded physician experienced in the field of chemical dependency and currently the executive consultant of the center, commented that "TOAPFI really endeavored to offer what a potentially great rehabilitation center possesses: impressive facility, highly structured program and activities, and a team of efficient and effective rehabilitation workers". Trained locally and internationally, Dr. Sualog has long years of credible direct experience in managing drug treatment and rehabilitation centers and handling drug dependents having been accredited by the Dangerous Drugs Board (DDB) since 1988, a medical specialist of DDB for 14 years, and a top official of both government and private rehabilitation centers.

Msgr. Ernie Joaquin, TOAPFI spiritual adviser, averred that ' We want to share our deepest aspirations and highest goal. Ours is not just the sensitive and systematic way of helping a person get rid of self-destructive habits. We believe that ours is a noble task of helping a person befriend his inner self that suffers from so much division and hostilities, " The man who is fully human and fully alive is the glory of God". (St. Irenaeus)

Msgr. Manny Gabriel said that TOAPFI is offering a program that provides the needed space and opportunity to rebuild one's life and to stay on track in our life's journey

TOAPFI psychiatric consultant Dr. Baltazar V. Reyes Jr. expressed his confidence that the rehabilitation center will pave the way to innovative rehabilitation facilities that are responsive to the needs of the community.

TOAPFI Chairman Rudin George A. Gonzales Jr. said that "The epistemology of the treatment program is living a life for others and touching other people's lives. Life is worth living when there is self worth and meaning in the individual within a happy family setting and a value centered community. This is what we stand for".

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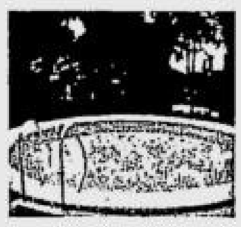

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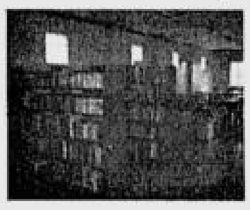

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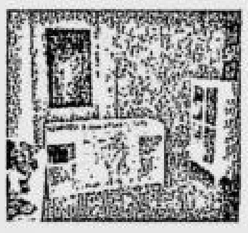

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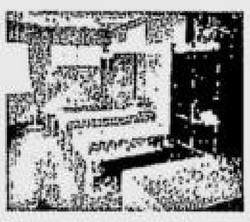

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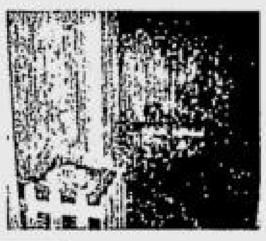

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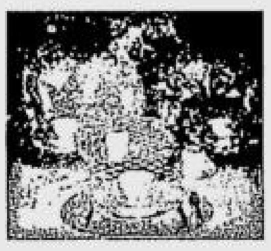

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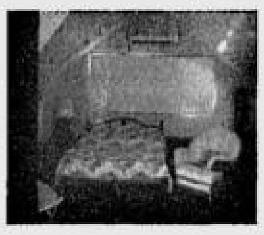

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Come and visit us!
Inauguration
September 18, 2004
Rehab Center: Brgy. Mamatid, Cabuyao, Laguna

The One Algon Place Foundation, Inc.

Brgy. Mamatid, Cabuyao, Laguna
Head Office :# 34 R. Tirona St., BF Homes, Parañaque City Off: (632) 809-2457/ 5656807 Fax: (632) 8092458 Cell: 0917 8559009
Website : www.onealgonplace.com.ph / e-mail : onealgonplace@i-manila.com.ph

An excellent rehabilitation center opens

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Building 1, San Lázaro Compound, Rizal Avenue, Sta. Cruz, Manila 1003
Tel Nos. 7438301 locals 1125.1132. fax (632).7431786:
Direct 711-9502, 7119503
Osec@doh.gov.ph

Message for the One Algon Place Foundation TRC

Let me extend my congratulations to those who initiated the establishment of the One Algon Place Foundation, treatment and Rehabilitation Center. I believe that the establishment of such facilities is a positive move to address the growing concern of drug abuse and related problem.

Today, communities demand a range of treatment and rehabilitation services due to the number of regular and occasional dangerous drug abusers in the country. Republic Act 9165 or the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs act of 2002 mandates the Department of Health (DOH) to establish rehabilitation centers nationwide, however, the need for private sector support cannot be overemphasized. Effective treatment and rehabilitation requires investment of financial and human resources and many countries, including the Philippines, must rely on the private sector to allocate sufficient assets and develop fully comprehensive system.

The DOH is currently developing treatment systems and services that reflect the health, social and community infrastructures into which, they will be introduced. The treatment program proposed by the Foundation, will complement and link with existing health, welfare and legal networks. This endeavor will maximize efficiency in the use of limited resources, as well as facilitate the integration of drug abuse recovery into existing community services.

In investing in treatment and rehabilitation, the Foundation showed sound judgment in human and economic terms with the ultimate goal of bringing back productivity of the dependent. I welcome The One Algon Place Foundation Treatment and Rehabilitation Center into the growing number of facilities moving towards a DRUG FREE REPUBLIC!

MANUEL M. DAYRIT, M.D., MSc
Secretary of Health

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MESSAGE

My esteemed greetings to Mr. Rudin A. Gonzales Jr. for putting up **The One Algon Place Foundation Inc. (TOAPFI)** drug and alcohol treatment and rehabilitation center at Brgy. Mamatid, Cabuyao, Laguna.

This world-class drug rehabilitation center is a giant step and an immeasurable contribution to our common goal and collective efforts of curbing drug abuse problems in our society. Your selfless dedication and deep concern is a moving inspiration that will reverberate in every person's consciousness. This remarkable affection for those with drugs and alcohol problems is a legacy that will continue to inflame our passion to achieve genuine progress.

Your unconditional efforts are testament of your commitment to serve your community. Indeed, you are doing much more anyone can give you credit for. TOAPFI will definitely complement the Provincial Government's priority programs and projects in our fight against illegal drugs. The town of Cabuyao and the whole province of Laguna is very fortunate to have TOAPFI as partner in community development and nation building.

You can be confident of my utmost support in TOAPFI's noble undertakings. Through His divine guidance, let us continue to be more vigilant and work together for more promising future. "KAYANG-KAYA PAGSAMA-SAMA!"

God bless.

Teresita S. Lazaro
TERESITA S. LAZARO
Governor

Rudin George A. Gonzales Jr.
Chairman of the Board

Board of Advisers

Dr. Baltazar Reyes
Psychiatric Consultant

Dr. Rosendo P. Sualog
Executive Consultant

Msgr. Ernie Joaquin
Spiritual Adviser

Msgr. Jose Bernardo
Value Formation

Dr. Doroteo M. Almendral
Public Relations

Arthur Munsayac
Risk Management Consultant

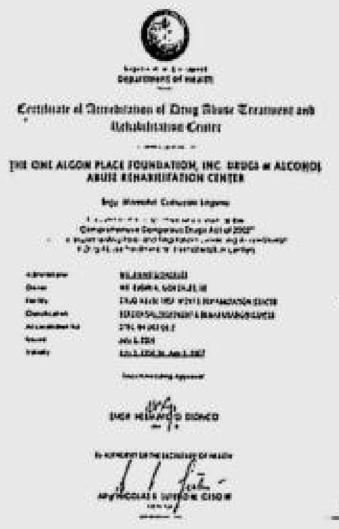
Wilhelm G. Ortaliz
Trade & Industry

Marilyn D. Pio
Nutritionist

Dr. Celso Fernandez Jr.
Security Consultant

Atty. Roberto A. Demigillo
Legal Counsel

DOH ACCREDITATION

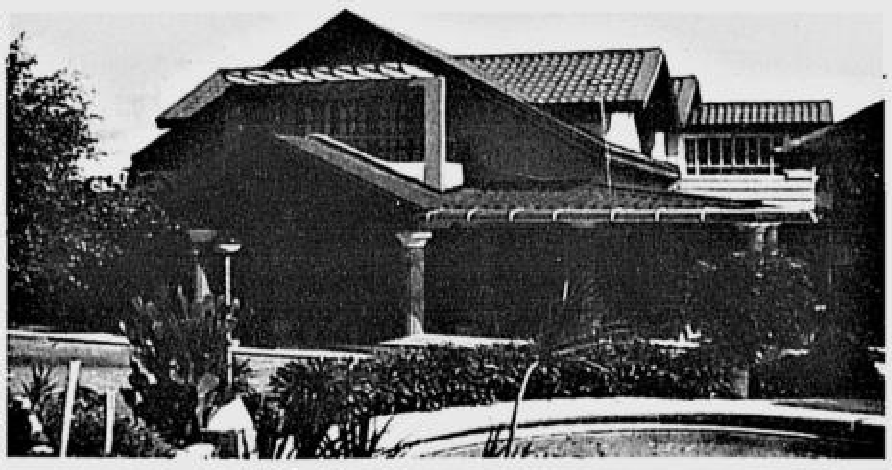


Department of Health
Certificate of Accreditation of Drug Abuse Treatment and Rehabilitation Centre
THE ONE ALGON PLACE FOUNDATION, INC. DRUGS & ALCOHOL ABUSE REHABILITATION CENTER

Come and visit us!
Inauguration
September 18, 2004
Rehab Center: Brgy. Mamatid, Cabuyao, Laguna

The One Algon Place, first in Luzon accredited by the DOH

The One Algon Place Foundation Inc. **(TOAPFI)** has what it takes to be an excellent drug & alcohol treatment and rehabilitation center equipped with complex modern facilities.



Facade of RZG function hall building of The One Algon Place Foundation Inc. which will soon hold its grand opening and inauguration.

It is the first rehabilitation center in Luzon accredited by the Department of Health. TOAPFI is now in full swing to admit drug dependents and alcoholics and is ready to hold its inauguration soon with a theme: **Serving Patients, Serving Families, and Serving the Nation.** It has this vision: a complex of world-class state-of-the-art facilities and globally recognized dynamic and quality program for drug dependents and alcoholics to recover for the betterment of the society. Its mission is to establish a distinctively Filipino treatment & rehabilitation center with modern facility and quality recovery program for drug dependents and alcoholics to restore or even improve their value-laden family and community relations moving forward for a strong republic.

FACILITIES

The facility is a high-end residential-like setting wherein the 130-bed dormitories for male and female clients are designed to effectively fit their needs and convenience. The hugeness of the facilities is justified as it is situated in a one-hectare lot with such amenities as swimming pool, sauna, gym and courts for basketball and volleyball. It has a lagoon where the residents can do therapeutic activities like fishing and boating.

There are therapy room, counseling room, conference hall, lecture room, medical clinic, library, store, mess hall, vocational shop, music room and chapel.

The facility is urbanely designed though in a rural place, and it is accessible to any type of public or private transportation. The menu is prepared under the supervision of a dietician, thus meals served are of high nutritional value.

PROGRAM AND SERVICES

TOAPFI employs a unique eclectic modality, combining concepts based mainly on the spiritual tenets of '12 Steps' fellowships, Therapeutic Community (TC) and multi-disciplinary team approach. The structured program is comprehensive and filled with daily activities focused on value formation, behavioral change and spiritual growth that will lead the patients to a healthy, happy and productive life.

Among the services and activities are drug dependency examination, physical and medical examination, individual counseling, group therapy, lectures and seminars on relevant topics, conjoint therapy, '12 Steps' fellowship meetings, Steps workbook session, therapy for families and significant others or co-dependents, values and spiritual reformation, skills development and talent enhancement, indoor and outdoor sports and recreation, scheduled and random drug tests, residential care, and 'round-the-clock security. Crisis intervention is available on a 24-hour basis.

Serving Patients, Serving Families, Serving the Nation

FAMILY PROGRAM & AFTERCARE

The families and significant others have to learn their needs as co-dependents, tough love, the art of letting go, emotional detachment, true sense of helping versus enabling, the disease concept of addiction, applicable teachings and slogans of '12 Steps' and other support groups, etc. They, too, need therapy mainly because they have been painfully affected by somebody else's addiction. TOAPFI's aftercare program is a continuing service to recovering drug dependents after being discharged implemented by an aftercare counselor. It is not a license to say that once they have gone through with the confinement in the center, they are totally recovered. They still have to continue the program and TOAPFI will ensure that the residents are followed-up, visited in their homes or go back to the center and avail of the services. This is primarily to prevent relapse, for them to shy away from the continuing menace of drug addiction because of possible recurring craving experiences and develop further their worth as dignified persons, and be truly productive again.

PROGRAM DURATION

Primary rehabilitation, wherein the patients are confined, lasts for a minimum of six months, while aftercare and follow-up is conducted for at least 18 months. The length of the program is pursuant to the provisions of Article VIII, R.A. 9165, otherwise known as the " Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002". The span of stay is largely determined by the symptom profile, psycho-social stressors and overall assessment of the resident's progress.

REHABILITATION TEAM

The center is manned by skilled and qualified administrative and technical staff providing services 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The rehabilitation team is composed of an executive directress, DDB- and DOH-accredited physician, psychiatrist, social worker, psychologist, nurse, occupational therapist, spiritual adviser and house parent. As experts in their own fields, they employ the most appropriate and helpful techniques available today. Aside from the above personnel, the center also taps the services of consultants specializing in the fields of psychiatry, psychology, medicine, education and trade.

PATIENT'S RIGHT

TOAPFI recognizes the patient's right to life, to be treated humanely with respect and dignity, being a sick person who did not choose to carry the burden of misery and despair, having been afflicted with a no-fault disease of addiction, and not to be treated like a criminal.

A GREAT REHABILITATION CENTER

Dr. Rosendo P. Sualog, an awarded physician experienced in the field of chemical dependency and currently the executive consultant of the center, commented that "TOAPFI really endeavored to offer what a potentially great rehabilitation center possesses: impressive facility, highly structured program and activities, and a team of efficient and effective rehabilitation workers". Trained locally and internationally, Dr. Sualog has long years of credible direct experience in managing drug treatment and rehabilitation centers and handling drug dependents having been accredited by the Dangerous Drugs Board (DDB) since 1988, a medical specialist of DDB for 14 years, and a top official of both government and private rehabilitation centers.

Msgr. Ernie Joaquin, TOAPFI spiritual adviser, averred that ' We want to share our deepest aspirations and highest goal. Ours is not just the sensitive and systematic way of helping a person get rid of self-destructive habits. We believe that ours is a noble task of helping a person befriend his inner self that suffers from so much division and hostilities, " The man who is fully human and fully alive is the glory of God". (St. Irenaeus)

Msgr. Manny Gabriel said that TOAPFI is offering a program that provides the needed space and opportunity to rebuild one's life and to stay on track in our life's journey

TOAPFI psychiatric consultant Dr. Baltazar V. Reyes Jr. expressed his confidence that the rehabilitation center will pave the way to innovative rehabilitation facilities that are responsive to the needs of the community.

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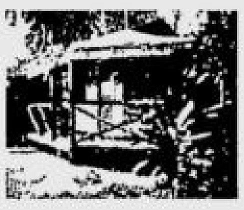

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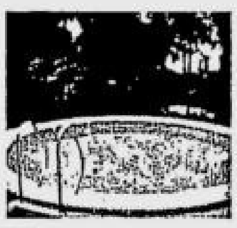

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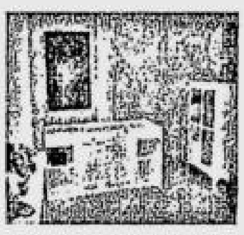

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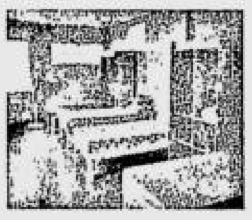

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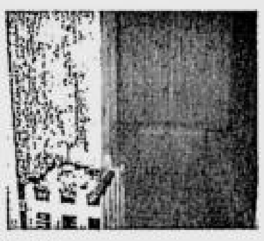

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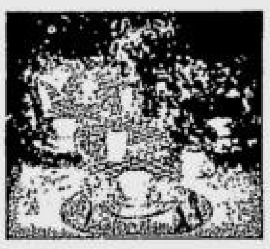

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Davao Chinoy traders welcome vigilantes

DAVAO CITY—A ranking official of the Filipino-Chinese business community here said they were elated over the continuing summary executions of suspected criminals in the city.

Uy Ching Siong, Federation of Filipino Chinese Chamber of Commerce regional director for Southern Mindanao, said the summary executions have created a good atmosphere for the business sector in the city.

"These killings are good for the city," Uy said during the inaugural meeting and oath-taking ceremonies of the City Peace and Order Council at the Grand Menseng Hotel here on Thursday.

But he immediately said they were not encouraging the extra-judicial killings even as these boosted the confidence of the businessmen in the city.

Incentive to return

Uy said because criminality had been reduced in the city, some businessmen who already left the city due to security concerns have come back.

"The robberies and kidnappings have reduced... They (Filipino-Chinese businessmen) are now sending back their (children) to schools here and not in Singapore or Manila anymore," he said.

He also said members of the media may have written something against the summary executions, but in their hearts "they would agree" that these killings have turned the city into a safer place.

Supt. Conrado Laza, Davao City Police Office director, on the other hand, said the crime rate in the city was reduced by 15 percent from June to July. He did not give exact figures.

Criminals get killed

"Our analysis is that these killings must be one of the reasons why (the) crime rate volume has (been) reduced because, somehow, criminals are getting killed," Laza said.

Meanwhile, an alleged drug pusher, who would have become the so-called vigilante gunmen's 59th victim, survived an attempt on his life on Thursday evening.

Victor Pormento, 42, of 155 Camus Street, was playing billiards by himself inside Annie's Place on the street, when he was shot. *Anthony S. Allada, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

LIGHTING THE WAY PDI VISAYAS BUREAL
Journalists who gathered in Iloilo City light up candles to protest the failure of authorities to solve the murders of journalists. ***(See related story on Page A6.)***

Casinos planned as new focus of tourism campaign

BAGUIO CITY—The Department of Tourism said it can pump up domestic tourism for the cities of Laoag, Angeles and Baguio by drawing Asian tourists to these cities' chief attraction: Their casinos.

Purificacion Molintas, DOT Cordillera director, said their department's market analyses predicted the profitability of this "casino bridge," which had been a key interest of tourists coming from southern China, Taiwan and Korea.

These tourists travel regularly to Laoag's Fort Ilocandia Resort and Casino, she said.

Molintas said the DOT is mapping out direct flight routes to Loakan Airport here from the Laoag International Airport, the Diosdado Macapagal International Airport in Clark, and the San Fernando airstrip at Poro Point, La Union to accommodate these tourists.

But this "casino bridge" will depend on how Baguio proceeds with a pending casino project at Camp John Hay, she said.

Mayor's decision

Mayor Braulio Yaranon had withdrawn all business permits that were issued to casino proponent Royal Highlands Leisure Corp.

Yaranon defended his actions before Bases Conversion Development Authority (BCDA) president Florencio Padernal and the John Hay Management Corp. when he stressed in a July dialogue that a city council resolution welcoming the casino violated an earlier resolution that set preconditions for Camp John Hay's development.

BCDA had been negotiating a management contract with Royal Highlands to manage the John Hay Casino, largely on the strength of Resolution 248 approved early this year.

Seven councilors of the previous administration passed the measure to overturn Resolution 362 issued in 1994, which declared that no casino could be put up inside Camp John Hay's "wholesome, family-oriented entertainment and recreational zone."

Fort Ilocandia draws as many as 352 tourists each day based on Laoag flight records, Molintas said.

Loakan Airport could accommodate as many as three to four daily flights from Laoag, ferrying 60 of its regular visitors, she said.

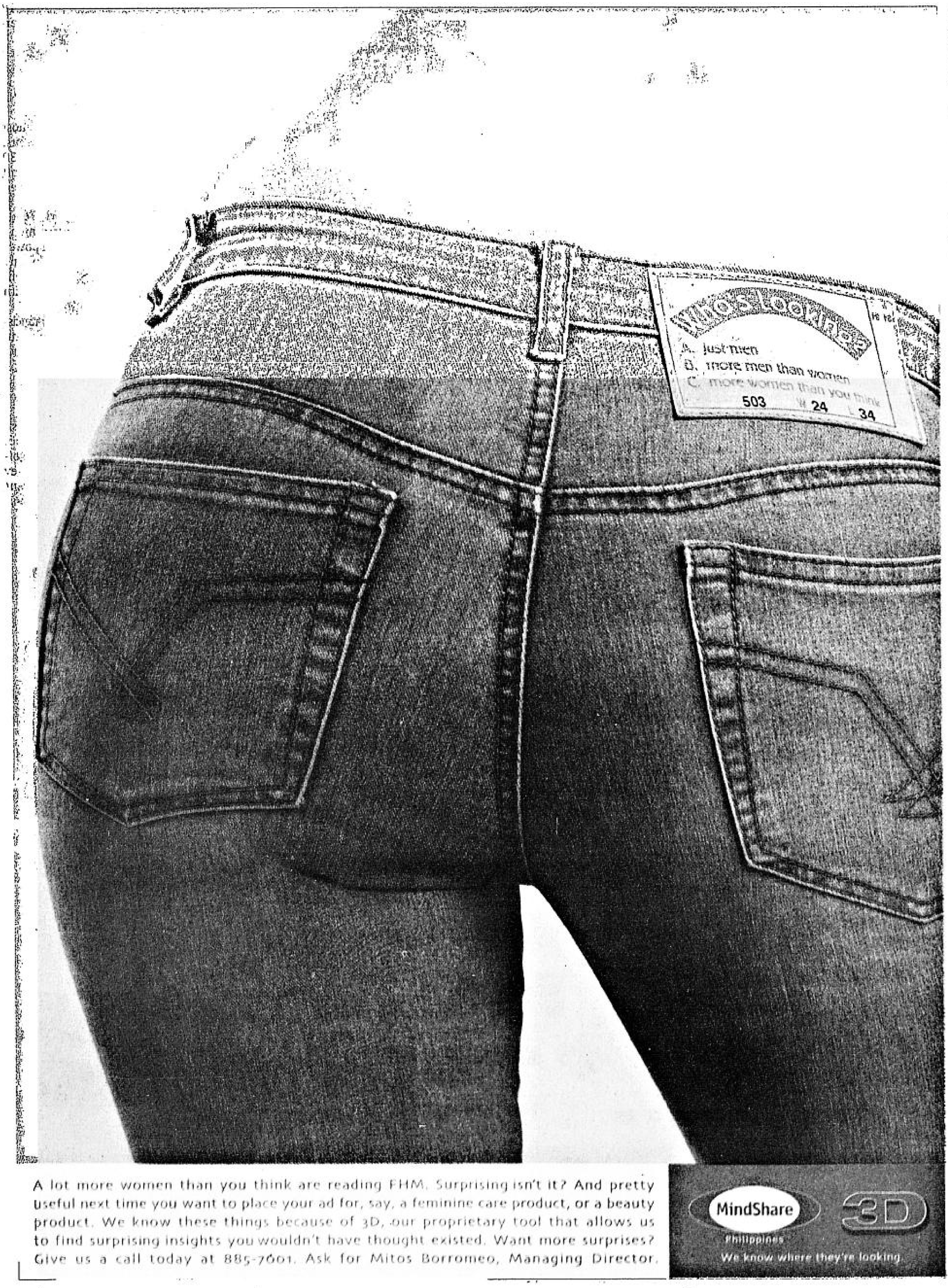
More tourists

The DOT noted that East Asia dominated arrivals in March 2004 with 82,691 or a 43.9-percent share of the total volume. The department documented "a double-digit increase" in tourist arrivals from Taiwan, China, Hong Kong, Korea and Japan.

"The DOT's mandate is to draw foreign currency. It is also our policy statement to promote Baguio and other places," Molintas said earlier in a press forum here.

"But the DOT will respect how the community responds to the (John Hay) casino. If they are offended by (the casino), and (BCDA decides) to withdraw it, then the government can target another Baguio attraction," she said.

The DOT market reports also predicted that Baguio could stand out as "the wedding and honeymoon" center for East Asian visitors because of the city's weather. *Vincent Cabreza and Desiree Caluza, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*



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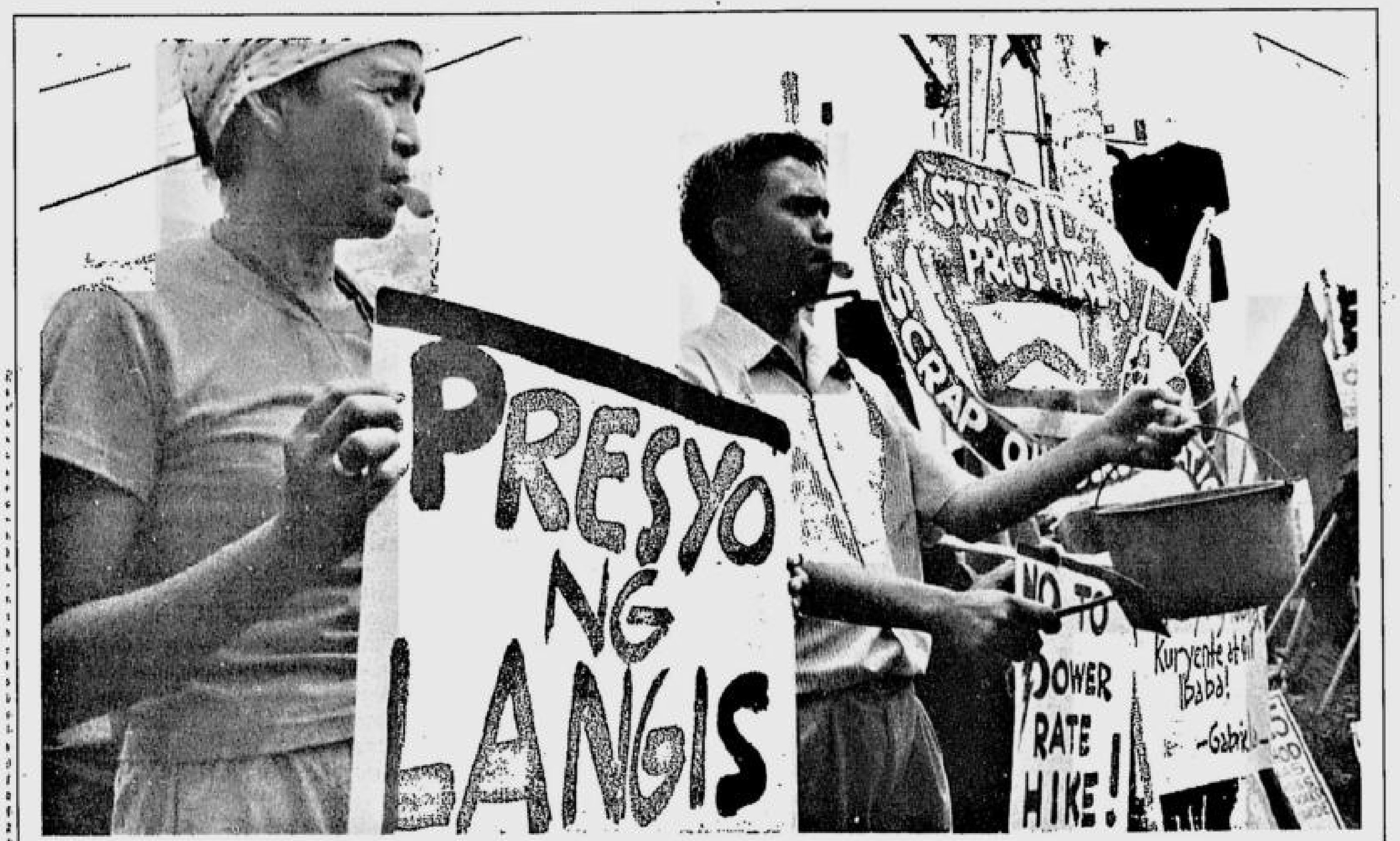

CONTINUING STRUGGLE

BING GONZALES/PDI MINDANAO BUREAU

Protesters continue taking to the streets to rally against rising oil prices and to demand the scrapping of the oil deregulation law. Rallyists in Davao City create noise to draw attention to the demands.

CPP spokesman calls for sustained protests vs rising fuel prices

LUCENA CITY—Communist spokesperson Gregorio "Ka Roger" Rosal called for the launching of more protest actions to demand a rollback of oil prices and the scrapping of the oil deregulation law.

Rosal, the Communist Party of the Philippines spokesman, called the recent successive and imminent oil price increases as "oppressive and unjust" and said that the Filipino people are "fully justified" in carrying out mass protest actions.

The CPP spokesman said it was imperative for the people to carry out mass protest actions to express their disgust at the oil companies' refusal to heed calls for lower oil prices and a return to deregulation of the oil industry.

"The unreasonable and unjust oil price hikes are hurting not only the most oppressed sectors but the middle classes as well," Rosal said. "The resistance cuts across broad sections of the people."

Since January, oil firms in the country have raised the prices of gasoline seven times for a cumulative total of between P4.70 and P4.81 a liter. The prices of diesel have gone up six times for a total of P3.50 to P3.65 a liter.

On Thursday, the group of Independent Philippine Petroleum Companies Association had said that "more frequent price hikes but in lower amounts" within the month is certain.

Rosal said the giant oil monopolies earn hundreds of billions of dollars "by bleeding dry the Filipino people as well as other people who really own the oil that these oil monopolies exploit and sell around the world."

"The original sin in the Philippine oil industry is that the deregulation law gave the foreign-owned oil monopolies all the freedom to exploit the situation and squeeze the people dry with every chance to hike oil prices," he said. *Delfin Mallari Jr.*

Cebu bishop rejects 2 kids policy

CEBU CITY—"Life is a gift. I don't think we have to limit God's gift to us otherwise he will limit his gift for us."

This was the response of Cebu Archbishop Ricardo Cardinal Vidal on the proposal for families to limit their number of children to two.

Vidal said the Catholic Church is advocating only one means of birth control—the natural family planning method.

"The Church is always asking everybody to be always responsible, to follow responsible parenthood. But of course, it will always differ in the means and the Church is only advocating one means that is the natural family planning and that is the only thing," said Vidal.

He said poverty should not be connected with overpopulation because there were other causes. One of them is greed, he said.

The cardinal said he would leave the matter to the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines (CBCP) to issue an official stand on the two-child policy endorsed by Albay Rep. Edcel Lagman.

He said the CBCP had issued in the past its official position on matters that may affect the views and standing of the Church.

Provincial Board member Estrella Yapha, chairperson of the committee on health, said the bill violated the right of couples to determine the number of their children.

She said her committee was studying the bill so the board could make an official stand during its regular session on Monday.

Yapha agreed with Cardinal Vidal that the two-children policy in the bill was not the answer to the worsening problem of overpopulation.

She said the government should instead focus on other programs for couples such as alternative livelihood projects to sustain their families. *Jolene Bulambot, PDI Visayas Bureau*

ISO CERTIFICATION URGED

Napocor men told to brace for layoffs

LA TRINIDAD, Benguet—National Transmission Corp. president Alan Ortiz has found a way out for government employees, who face retrenchment due to President Macapagal-Arroyo's streamlining policy: Get them ISO-certified.

The ISO (International Standards Organization) is the international reference for the quality standards that are uniformly set for any industry in the world.

"It assures (employees) of continued employment because they are part of a quality management team . . . Whole departments are working on ISO certification. It has become infectious. It's a good virus," Ortiz told a press briefing here on Wednesday.

The National Power Corp. is scheduled to fire 370 employees, most of whom were rehired after the state-owned firm retrenched half of its original work force in 2003.

Ortiz said Napocor will follow Transco's ISO initiative.

Grid operator

He said Energy Secretary Vincent Perez had assured him that no similar restructuring would happen to Transco, which is also due for auction this year. Transco runs the national power grid that brings electricity to the provinces.

The government justified last year's Napocor retrenchment when it broke up the state power monopoly into Transco. A downsized Napocor now supervises all government-owned power plants until these are auctioned off according to the parameters set by the 2001 Electric Power Industry Reform Act (Epira).

"(The ISO certification) signals to would-be investors that they don't need to restructure. They don't need to pare down employment numbers. This is a world-class group, and we need to keep them intact to continue working efficiently," Ortiz said.

Ortiz received Transco's second ISO certification for management efficiency from a German audit firm on Wednesday on behalf of Transco's District II unit (Mt. Province District).

TUV, a German audit firm, declared Transco as ISO-9000 certified for "quality management services for business-to-business transactions."

Ortiz said the ISO already assures employees manning the district that they are indispensable to the private firm that would win the Transco bid this year.

He said Transco received its first ISO 9000 certification last year for their District 1 unit, which operates in the Ilocos region.

1st certification

He said Napocor would eventually follow Transco's lead, given its special concerns.

But Roque Corpuz, Transco chief operating officer and senior vice president, said the new ISO certifications would also raise the sale value of Transco and any other state property that is up for auction.

Although the firm has to quantify this value, Corpuz said the ISO will magnify Transco's viability to Australian, Singaporean and American firms, which are expected to vie for Transco's scheduled auction this year.

Ortiz said the government set an Aug. 6 deadline for firms to indicate their interest in Transco.

But he corrected public impressions that the government is selling the whole national power grid. He said the auction refers only to the management and operation of the grid, which will remain a government asset.

Ortiz's solution, however, did not impress the Napocor Employees Consolidated Union (Necu), one of three unions negotiating to keep most of their members in office.

The unions want the government to sell the employees' contracts along with the plants to sustain "their level of efficiency," a union leader said.

Abner Eleria, Necu president, said unless government slows down its schedule for selling its power assets or suspends it all together, the ISO documentation will not save the jobs of many employees.

"At most, the ISO (documentation) will take months, but Transco is scheduled to be sold in December, as in most of the Napocor power plants. Will there be time to certify every district of Transco and Napocor before the deadlines?" he asked.

Blackout threat

In the same forum, Ortiz ended last week a blackout threat which the state-owned power firm had dangled in June and July against Baguio and Misamis Oriental, over previously undetected power consumptions.

Ortiz on Wednesday said Transco, the National Power Corp., the Benguet Electric Cooperative (Beneco) and the Misamis Oriental Electric Cooperative (Moresco) had agreed to negotiate the unpaid balance down to amounts that would not affect the operations of each facility.

The debts were never reflected in Transco and Napocor bills due to a technical metering error. Both Transco and Napocor had admitted the mistake and had initiated corrective programs.

For Baguio, the "under billings" cost Transco four years of undetected power that was valued at P22,004,377.28. Napocor had also demanded from Beneco P157 million for the same electrical consumption that was not detected by its own meters.

Beneco, the electric cooperative servicing Baguio and Benguet, got a court-issued restraining order against Transco's June 28 and July 4 disconnection notices.

Metering error

Moresco owes Transco P18 million for a similar metering error in the region.

But unlike Beneco, Moresco had agreed to pay back Transco without any questions, said Roque Corpuz, Transco senior vice president and chief operating officer.

"We're amenable to the most reasonable terms and payments. You can stretch it 10, 20, 30 years, but we don't want to cut off power to Baguio. We need Baguio," Ortiz said.

The concessionaire who ends up winning the bid for running and operating the national power grid this year will abide by any debt restructuring agreement Transco will now enter with Beneco and Moresco, he said.

A Beneco official said Fr. Francisco Silva, presidential adviser on rural electrification, and Edith Bueno, chief of the National Electrification Administration, mediated the talks between Gerardo Verzosa, Beneco general manager, and Ortiz.

The source said Transco's position was "a complete turnaround, because, in the beginning, we offered them a solution, but they trained their guns on us." *Vincent Cabreza, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

UPLB parish priest to be ordained new bishop

By Romulo Ponte
PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

SAN PABLO CITY—The parish priest of the University of the Philippines at Los Baños, Laguna who was appointed by Pope John Paul II as Auxiliary Bishop for the Metropolitan Archdiocese of Manila will be ordained bishop on August 20 at the San Pablo Cathedral here.

The ordination rite for Bishop-elect Msgr. Bernardino Cortez, HP which starts at about 9 a.m. would be led by Pope John Paul II's representative to the Philippines Most Rev. Antonio Franco, D.D. to be assisted by the members of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines (CBCP) throughout the country.

There are about 118 cardinals, archbishops and bishops in the country, according to the CBCP Directory in year 2002.

Hundreds of diocesan, religious priests and deacons from the host diocese of Laguna; Archdioceses of Manila; Lipa, Batangas; Dioceses of Lucena, Gumaca of Quezon; Antipolo, Rizal; Prelature of Infanta and elsewhere are expected to show up for the elaborate Concelebrated Mass and ordination rituals.

After his ordination, Cortez would become the third member of the Episcopacy who are either members of the San Pablo Clergy or trace their roots to the province of Laguna.

The two other CBCP members ahead of him are His Eminence Ricardo Cardinal Vidal, DD of Pila, Laguna town and Bishop Leo Drona, SDB, DD Pangil town.

The Union of Catholic Asian News (Ucan) quoted Cortez recently as saying that there are priests who are "good organizer(s) and good preacher(s) but devote little time for individual daily prayer."

Maguindanao security guard finds out he's 'dead' in SSS records

COTABATO CITY—A security guard based in the nearby town of Parang, Maguindanao said he got the shock of his life when he learned that he is already "dead" based on records of the Social Security System.

Worse, his wife supposedly collected death benefits from the pension fund for the private sector.

Glenn Calaod, a 38-year-old security guard of Eversun Plywood Company, said he came to know about his "death" when he went to the SSS Regional Office in Davao City to comply with a company requirement for employees to get new SSS identification cards.

But SSS employees, he said, were surprised because based on the regional office's records, he is officially dead.

Funeral benefits

In his file with the SSS, Calaod's wife Jenma had received funeral benefits amounting to P20,000 on Feb. 6, 22 days after his supposed death.

Based on the records, Jenma had supposedly filed death claims on Jan. 28.

Calaod said he immediately called his wife who was also surprised at the turn of events.

"How come I would claim death benefits from SSS when my husband is still alive and we are living together?" the amused wife later told radio station dxMS here on Friday.

The Calaods believe that somebody had reported he was dead to the SSS and then filed the claim using spurious documents.

Jenma swore she never filed any claim with the SSS as far as her husband's supposed death is concerned.

She suspects that a syndicate, involving some people knowledgeable on SSS operations, were behind the forgery.

Common occurrence

"That is not an isolated case, this is very common in our place," said Wenceslao Vallerano, SSS-Cotabato branch manager.

Vallerano said the case could only be solved once the Calaods file a complaint.

He said the National Bureau of Investigation could also help. *Edwin Fernandez, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

Comelec reverses self on Vizcaya mayoral row

By Melvin Gascon
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

SOLANO, Nueva Vizcaya—The Commission on Elections has reversed its earlier ruling that recognized the son of the late Mayor Heraldo Dacayo here as a substitute candidate to his father.

The ruling that recognized lawyer Philip Dacayo as a substitute candidate to the then ailing Mayor Dacayo had sown confusion in the local government and among residents here for the past month.

The Comelec's *en banc* resolution issued July 27 was seen to end the controversy here, which began when Dacayo and Vice Mayor-elect Santiago Dickson both took their oaths as mayor.

For three weeks since July 1, both Dacayo and Dickson had jointly held the post that was left vacant following the death of Mayor Dacayo on May 14.

The decision said it set aside "Comelec Resolution No. 7259, there being no valid proclamation of (Dacayo) . . . when he took his oath of office before the honorable chairman of the commission."

"Hence, it has no legal effect and shall be disregarded," the decision said.

In issuing the ruling, the commissioners considered the memorandum issued by lawyer Abraham Johnny Asuncion, provincial elections officer, where local Comelec personnel affirmed that they were not aware of any substitution that took place barely hours before the deadline on May 10, as claimed by Dacayo.

Asuncion earlier asked the Comelec to give its June 30 resolution "a second look, in order to put to rest the chaotic scenario being brought about by the intervention of the Comelec main office in declaring the existence of a valid substitution, contrary to the records in the local office."

Dickson said he was relieved that he would be able to assume the mayoral seat.

Since July 27, Dickson had been performing as acting mayor after the regional trial court issued a 20-day temporary restraining order against Dacayo, in connection with a petition filed by Dickson.

Interior Secretary Angelo Reyes also issued a directive recognizing Dickson as the officer in charge of the town, pending the resolution of three separate but related petitions before the Comelec, the RTC and the Supreme Court.

When contacted for comment, Dacayo said that while he has yet to receive a copy of the Comelec's latest resolution, he would respect and abide by it.

"*Swerte-swerte lang yan* (It's all about luck). The way I look at it, it had been resolved with finality so, let's keep it that way," he said.

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Projects change villagers' lives

By Aquiles Zonio
Maguindanao

FOR YEARS, residents of a remote tribal village in Tupi town in South Cotabato had relied on unsafe shallow open wells for water.

There had also been instances when cholera outbreak claimed the lives of several children in the area due to poor sanitation and lack of potable water.

Yalan Pandian, chair of the cooperative-run Lunen Water Users' Association, said they submitted a project proposal to the Southern Philippines Council for Peace and Development (SPCPD) for the construction of a water system in the village way back in 1999. But the request was not acted upon, Pandian said.

When Ronaldo Ypil, a community infrastructure team leader of the Growth with Equity in Mindanao (GEM), came to follow up the GEM's Livelihood Enhancement and Peace (LEAP) project in the area, the residents asked for help. The GEM confirmed that such facility was a priority need and agreed to provide funds.

In February, the construction of a P1.1-million water system began. About two months later, the more than 2,000 residents no longer had to walk for several kilometers just to fetch water for drinking and household purposes.

Pandian said the amount of the project was minimal, but it had a big impact on the lives of tribal residents who had long been neglected by the government.

In Sitio Tunggol, a riverside village in Datu Montawal town in Maguindanao, the construction of a boat landing facility also changed the lives of residents.

The project, worth $26,144, spurred trading and economic activities in the area, which served as an evacuation for Muslim civilians who had been displaced when the Moro rebel stronghold in the Buliok complex was sieged by the military two years ago.

Vice Mayor Mohalidin Bao said the project "virtually transformed" the dusty and sleeping riverside village into a docking point for boats, drop-off point for goods, as well as center for traders coming from as far as the towns of Pikit, Kabacan, Carmen and M'lang in North Cotabato, and the towns of SK Pendatun, Pagalungan and Sultan sa Barongis in Maguindanao.

Every day, at least 30 boats cruise the Rio Grande De Mindanao to transport goods and passengers at Tunggol. Before the project was implemented, Bao said traders had difficulty in unloading their goods, especially during low tide.

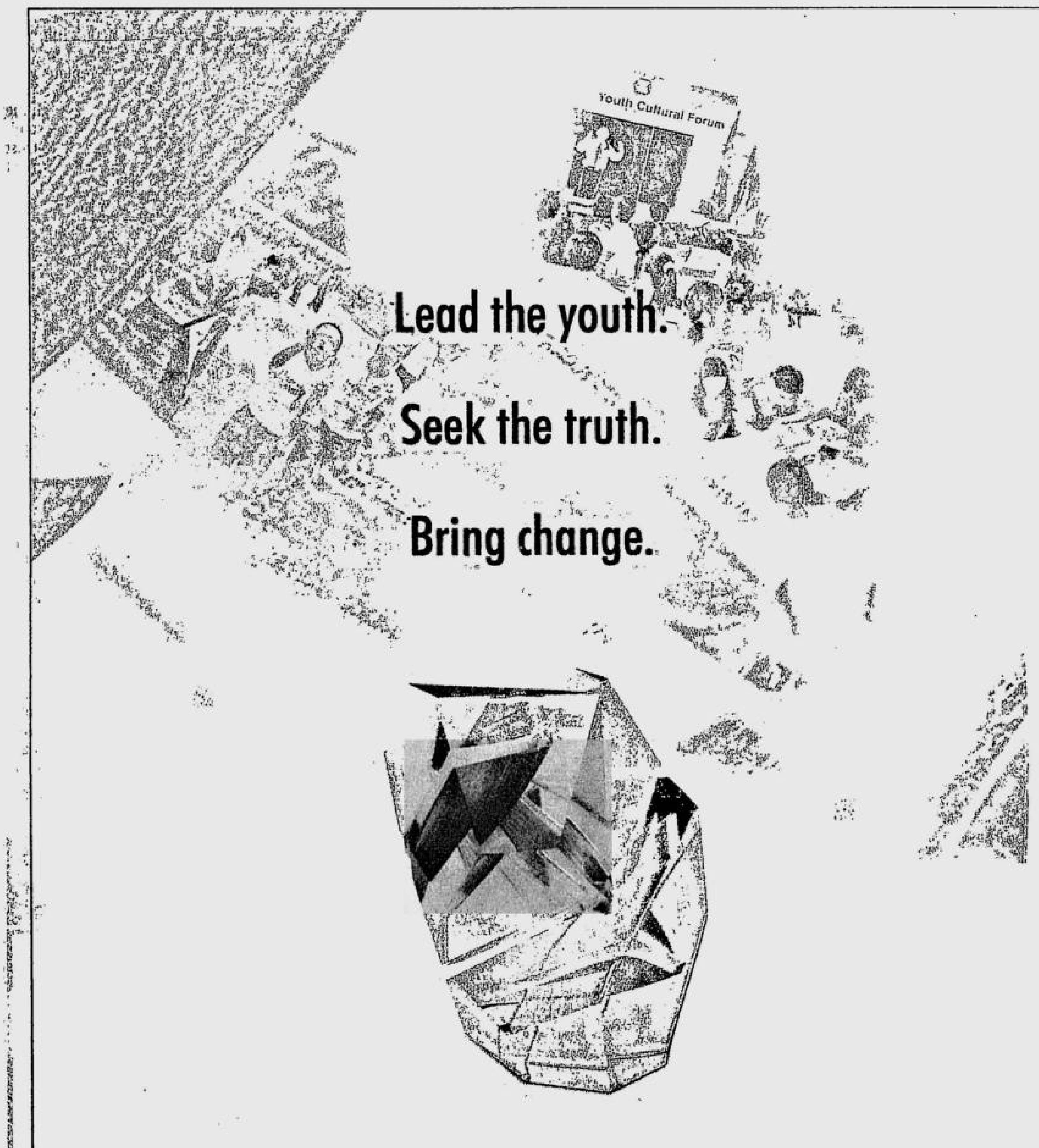
Tunggol's population of more than 4,000 started to swell as more people came and put up stores around the port. The facility is not only a major source of revenue for the village but also provides jobs for the locals.

The Lunen water system and Tunggol boat landing facility were just among the community-based infrastructure projects (CIPs) undertaken by the GEM under its infrastructure development program.

Ypil said the agency was planning to construct 500 CIPs and 30 medium-scale infrastructure projects (MSIP) worth $25 million over the next five years.

The construction of five MSIPs are also underway. They include a six-meter wide road and replacement of a 20-meter span concrete bridge in Sitio Sarmiento, the site of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front's fallen Camp Abubakar.

Sultan Kamar Imam, a local Muslim leader, said the road and bridge would connect Barira town to the Narciso Ramos Highway. The project, worth around P11.65 million, is a vital link between Barira and Matanog towns in Maguindanao.



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Bingbong: A journey from behind bars to Congress

From page A1

know how to forget and forgive, you'll never get out," he said.

Becoming a congressman of the first district of Quezon City was, for him, not just vindication. It was more of a continuation of the "miracle" which started in prison the day when he said he met the Lord, until his release from jail.

Portrayed by the media as notorious, Crisologo made headlines in the 1960s for terrorizing people in his province of Ilocos Sur with guns and goons. It was the era when ambushes and murders were being committed by men with high-powered firearms.

Crisologo's father, Floro, then a congressman, and his cousin, now Gov. Chavit Singson, lorded it over the province. Singson was known to be the elder Crisologo's chief security officer at the time.

A quarrel between Singson and the younger Crisologo over control of tobacco trading operations led to a falling out between Singson and the Crisologos.

Bingbong begged off from talking about the Singsons, saying they were now on good terms.

Murder in the cathedral

The elder Crisologo was attending Mass when he was gunned down in the 1970s by unidentified men inside St. Paul's Cathedral in downtown Vigan.

The events that followed the murder were swift. Two villages in Bantay town—Ora-East and Ora-Central—were razed by fire. Witnesses pointed to the young Crisologo as the culprit.

To this day, Crisologo insists he was framed by his father's enemies who allegedly paid witnesses to testify against him in order to take him out of the political scene because, at that time, he was about to enter politics.

At the end of the trial, Crisologo was meted out a "double-life" sentence for arson and sent to the New Bilibid Prisons in Muntinlupa in 1976.

Promised pardon by the government, he withdrew his appeal before the Supreme Court. Then, in 1981, President Ferdinand Marcos gave him back his liberty.

While in jail, Crisologo said that out of curiosity he attended the meetings conducted by Catholic Charismatic groups.

One day, while listening to the Word of God, he said he found himself healed. Suddenly, he wanted to serve Him.

A miracle came

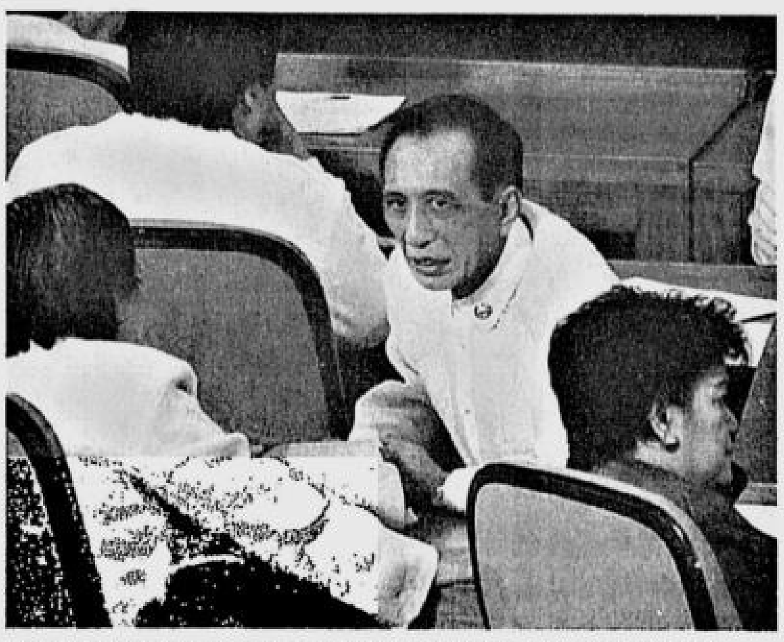
"I met the Lord and, in that meeting in prison, I made a covenant with Him that if He would give me a second chance in life, I would really serve Him," Crisologo said.

"Suddenly out of nowhere, in spite of the fact that we had no more money, no more political connections, no friends, a miracle came. I was given a pardon," he said.

Asked if he had repented for the crime he was accused of, Crisologo stressed he had not because "there was nothing to repent about." He insisted that it was a political case from the start.

"Yes, I was convicted but there were plenty of people who were convicted but were innocent. I found that out when I was in prison," he said.

Outside prison, Crisologo put up the Loved Flock Catholic Charismatic Renewal Ministries in March 1982 and went around sharing his faith with other people. The group grew and it now has one million members in the country, in Hong Kong and in Taiwan.



A VINDICATION, Quezon City Rep. Bingbong Crisologo calls his election to the House of Representatives in the May 10 polls. A neophyte among his colleagues, his legislative agenda, he says, is geared toward helping the poor. EDWIN BACASMAS

Politicians can be God's tools

Crisologo, who is still the Flock's head servant, has allowed the family-owned Criscor Building in Quezon Avenue to be its headquarters free of charge.

Soon, Crisologo became famous for praying over distressed people who came to him. He conducted spiritual seminars and prayer meetings, holding his life up as an example of conversion.

Seeing more people coming to his seminars to seek solutions to their problems, Crisologo thought it was time to venture into politics once more—in order to help more.

"I told myself, 'if the Lord could use a doctor as an instrument to heal, why can't the Lord use a 'politician'—because that is our line since I came from a political family—to help other people."

Crisologo ran for senator in 1992 but lost. He ran for congressman in the same district he now represents and lost again. In the next elections, he ran for councilor, won and served two terms.

Politics is not wrong

In the last congressional election, he defeated the daughter of Executive Secretary Alberto Romulo by 19,000 votes.

"Politics is not wrong per se if you use it for the people. But if you use it to aggrandize yourself and to promote your own personal interest, then that is the time that it becomes wrong," he said.

Asked why he ran in Quezon City and not Ilocos Sur, Crisologo said he actually grew up and studied in Quezon City, although his father stayed most of the time in the province because of his work as a congressman.

He denied that politics had ruined the family.

In his father's footsteps

"It depends on how you look at it," he said. "In our province, we were able to help many people. It was my father who (sponsored) the tobacco law. It was father who (sponsored) the Social Security System law which, until now, is benefiting many people," he said.

To Crisologo, following in the footsteps of his father was the will of God. He believes he could help many people now that he is a congressman.

"The Bible says no authority exists without the will of God. So the authority of Congress is there because of the will of God in order to be used by the Lord as an instrument to help other people," he said.

His legislative agenda, he said, will be geared towards the poor.

If there was one thing in his life that he wanted to change, Crisologo said, it was his failure to help other people when his father was still in power.

"I'm helping the people now because it gives me joy," he said.

Crisologo said he no longer gets hurt when his political enemies bring up his past, as happened during the last campaign.

'Wanted' streamers

He said his political rivals put up streamers carrying his pictures with the words : "Wanted: Crisologo, arsonist, rapist." They also wanted him disqualified.

What Crisologo did was to have more of the streamers printed and hung in many places in his district, including churches. As a result, he said, people got mad at his detractors.

"People knew my past. They elected me twice as councilor. You know, people will never tolerate those who are hitting below the belt. It's all right if you charge them with corruption, with everything, but ... people will never like personal attacks," he said.

Everyone has own prison

Now that he is a congressman, Crisologo said, some fair-weather friends have started to come back.

"But we know better now," he said.

Whatever the problems one faces, God will always be there to provide comfort and help, he said.

"If I was able to get out of prison, they, too, can get out of their own prison cell," Crisologo said.

"Many Filipinos are now in prison, although not physically (as I once was), but they are in the prison of poverty. They are in prison cells of sickness, of broken relationships and non-direction in life," he said.

Two captive soldiers are grateful to NPA rebels

From page A1

the charges.

The ambush

Fidelino and Nemeño have no doubt that the rebels who ambushed their 24-member Army patrol would have wiped them out if they had resisted and fought to the death. The two were captured during an encounter last March 1 in Bataan, Tinambac, Camarines Sur in which one soldier died and six other troopers were wounded.

"Suddenly there was a big explosion and I was thrown several meters from where I was walking. I figured I must have lost consciousness for several hours. When I came to, the enemy was already closing around us," Nemeño narrated in broken Filipino.

Ka Mario, who commanded the NPA ambush team, said the two soldiers were fortunate as the bomb that exploded was an anti-carrier type with no shrapnel and with the projectile force directed upwards.

What brought down the soldiers were the powerful shock waves of the detonated bomb, he said.

Fidelino, who commanded the patrol, said it was very dark that night and he thought his team members were still holding their defensive positions as he could hear gunfire from time to time after the big explosion.

As team commander, he said he had the duty to stand his ground until all his men were safe so he remained near Nemeño until daybreak. By then it was too late to withdraw as the enemy had them surrounded by 5 a.m.

Fidelino said the hardest thing for him was to accept being a captive of the enemy. He was always thinking of escape until he was convinced that it was impossible to do so.

Ka Russel had imposed a kind of reward and punishment on the two captives. He explained that the rebels accord humane treatment to their prisoners under their own rules of engagement, the Protocol 1 and 2 of the Geneva Convention and the Comprehensive Agreement for the Respect of Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law (Carhrihl).

Ka Russel revealed that of the two, Fidelino was hard to deal with "ideologically" during the early months of captivity and would use his own "psychological warfare tactics" on his captors.

He said Fidelino at one time thought that he could bribe his way out of captivity by promising a job with his uncle in Pasay City to one of their members in exchange for help in his escape plan.

But since all of the members of the custodial force are chosen on the basis of their "ideological consolidation," he said the bribe attempt was immediately reported to senior communist cadres.

Fidelino denied the bribery attempt but he was handcuffed as a punishment.

Behavior

Before the incident, Ka Russel said that Fidelino had displayed the following behavior: he paid unusual attention to movements and activities inside the NPA camp; he would suddenly skip meals; he would go for long periods without speaking and was often uncooperative.

In the more than five months that he has been securing Fidelino and Nemeño, Russel said he more or less knew the real persons behind the military façade.

He said the two were just people with ordinary human emotions and unique personal characteristics.

"The two captives are quite sensitive. If you fail to anticipate or fulfill their littlest request, they become disheartened. And if you give in to them, they become very enthusiastic," he said in Filipino.

Nemeño's tale

Nemeño, 24, entered military service in November 2003 after he realized that he had no chance of landing a good job. He did not go beyond the second year of a medical technology course at the Dr. Ocampo College in Cotabato City. He was a working student.

He also joined the military to impress his village sweetheart who had expressed her strong attraction toward men in uniform. Unfortunately that romance ended unhappily.

After he was accepted into the Army, Nemeño went home wearing his uniform only to find that his sweetheart had married.

If he had not been captured by the NPA rebels, he would have married his fiánce from Malodbalod, Tigaon, Camarines Sur on March 27, he said.

Fearing of losing job

The 11th of 12 siblings, Nemeño left his village in Agusan del Sur province when he was barely in his teens in 1993 and dreamt of helping his poor family who subsisted on farming.

He said he initially worked as a houseboy. Later he became a waiter in Jollibee restaurant. He worked during the day and studied at night.

Now he thinks his future is uncertain. He does not know if the military would take him back after he is released.

The fear of losing his job is what preoccupies him while waiting for freedom.

Fidelino's story

All that Fidelino, 30, wants to do is to recover the time he lost with his family once he is released. Since his capture, he thinks of nothing but his wife, Leah, and daughter, Alliyah Nicole, 2, whom he last saw at Christmas.

Fidelino finished political science and was an officer of the Reserve Officer Training Course at the Marinduque State Colleges in 1994.

He went to Manila and worked with the Reserve Officers Security Agency in 1997.

He soon met Leah Vitor, a student at the Pamantasan ng Makati, and the couple married on Aug. 20, 2001.

He entered military service in November 2000 and was promoted to lieutenant last year.

Fidelino has promised himself he would make up for whatever limitations and shortcomings he had as a family man. He worries for his wife and another baby due in December.

He is ready to accept the consequences of defeat in battle and eventual capture. But he is happy to be alive and "totally" misses his family, he said.

Rebel gains

Ka Russel believes that the political gains of holding the two Army soldiers approximate the requirement of territoriality, constituency and authority of a belligerent state.

He said Fidelino and Nemeño, being combatants, were declared POWs upon capture, with full guarantees of the international rules on humane treatment of captives under the Geneva Convention and the Carhrihl.

But he said the two soldiers also earned the full liberties accorded them by complying with the required behavior and conduct and their cooperation with the custodial force.

Freedom of expression

Ka Russel said they deliberately avoided placing the captive soldiers in situations that would encourage them to think of escaping in order to avoid loss of lives.

He said the two were only restricted and controlled in their movements but not their freedom of expression.

He claimed they were even encouraged to criticize any one of the custodial force members.

Fidelino expressed his protest during his captivity by resisting the cadres' instructions for the two captives to cut their hair, beards and moustaches for better grooming.

"I will only cut my hair and shave my beard and moustache on the day that I am released," the Army officer told his captors.

Full disclosure

He added he would also make a full disclosure of what was on his mind since his capture when he is released.

During general ideological meetings, Fidelino and Nemeño were allowed to freely argue and participate in discussions of the documents being studied, Russel said.

The two soldiers confirmed that they were lectured on the provisions of Cahrihl to orient them on the principles of treating POWs.

Ka Russel claimed that the communist rebels reject the use of torture in extracting information as information from tortured captives are replete with errors.

He said they went through the painstaking process of persuading Fidelino and Nemeño to trust them that the humane treatment was not for show but for real, and was in compliance with the established rules and policies of the Communist Party and international institutions.

But the two captive soldiers were warned that if they attempted to escape the rebels would not hesitate to shoot them dead.

Letter of appeal

Fidelino and Nemeño were encouraged to make contact with their loved ones and to write an appeal to President Macapagal-Arroyo to hasten the government's compliance with the conditions for their safe release.

Ka Russel said Fedelino at first refused to submit the letter of appeal to the President, fearing that it would be used by the rebels as propaganda against the government.

But with the continuing delay of their release, Fidelino became convinced of its necessity.

Once Fidelino and Nemeño are released to the representatives of the International Red Cross and the government peace negotiating panel, the prison with no bars would have also ceased to exist.

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Beware of the 'Marcos monument to folly'

From page A1

Secretary Vince Perez "to distract the public from the problem."

"That is why Energy Secretary Perez, an investment banker, has very cleverly stated that the conversion will not take place until most of the generating plants have been disposed of," Arroyo said. "By that time, no one will remember the promise and the propaganda."

Arroyo also questioned the funding for such an ambitious undertaking.

"Where will we get the money? Borrow again? Fact is . . . it will turn out to be so prohibitive that it would be cheaper to construct a new one than to refit it," he said.

Reservations

Several businessmen welcomed Ms Arroyo's plan but only if the cost of converting the long-idle plant would be significantly lower than building a new plant that would use natural gas.

Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry executive vice president Donald Dee said this should have been done a long time ago because the government had spent heavily on the project.

Federation of Filipino Chinese Chamber of Commerce executive vice president Francis Chua said that, with the sharp rise in petroleum prices, it might be cost-effective to open the plant now and convert it into a gas-fired project.

Philippines Inc. chair Miguel Varela said that converting the BNPP would at least put to good use an idle plant that had not benefited anyone, so far, despite all the money that had been sunk into it.

Federation of Philippine Industries president Jesus Arranza said that, while the conversion of the Bataan plant was welcome, the government must make sure that converting it into a natural gas facility would be financially viable or else the government would only be throwing good money after bad.

Buy back Petron

Anakpawis Rep. Crispin Beltran said yesterday that instead of reviving the BNPP, the government should buy back the oil refinery Petron to develop a national oil industry,

Beltran said Ms Arroyo's plan was a "circuitous, complicated and a roundabout way" of solving the power crisis.

"The government should funnel its resources towards buying back Petron and staking its claim over the oil resources that are being discovered and taken over by the US and other foreign corporations-led drilling and mining consortia," Beltran said in a statement.

The proposal to nationalize Petron had also been raised by Senate President Franklin Drilon, but Malacañang rejected the proposal, saying the government was "comfortable" with its 40-percent stake in the oil firm.

Perez had said the government would keep its stake in Petron to have an "influence in the oil market."

The oil firm was privatized in the 1990s. Saudi Aramco acquired a 40-percent share, while the Philippine government maintained another 40 percent, and 20 percent was listed in the stock exchange.

Beltran said buying back Petron "was an easy and ready-made solution."

"All it takes is for the government to assert its political will," he said.

First things first

The conversion of the BNPP into a gas-fired project was part of an emergency energy independence agenda announced by Ms Arroyo on Thursday.

The agenda calls for turning inactive power facilities into gas-fuelled plants in 2005 to ensure additional power capacity for the next several years.

The winning bidder in the failed rural electrification program of the National Electrification Administration (NEA) urged the nation's leaders yesterday to first address the lack of infrastructure to deliver electricity to the countryside.

Nerwin Industries, the lowest complying bidder in the failed IPB-80 project, lamented in a statement that up to now NEA officials had refused to award a $12 million contract for the purchase of 60,637 wood poles and crossarms.

The foreign-funded project was supposed to provide electricity to the remotest areas in the countryside, but as in the case of other government biddings, it was foiled by political maneuvering and the interests of some government officials and legislators, said Nerwin.

The project was first bidded out in 2000, but although fully funded by the Japan Bank for International Cooperation, it did not push through.

Petition in court

Nerwin has sought recourse in the courts through a petition compelling NEA and energy officials to honor the contract. The trial on the merits of the case is being heard by a Manila court.

Nerwin said it could not even seek an audience with Ms Arroyo who, it said, had the power to order NEA officials to push through with the project.

Apples and oranges

As far as Bataan Rep. Antonino Roman is concerned, the controversy over the BNPP was a case of apples and oranges.

Roman said that the BNPP and a gas-fired power generation facility were two completely different things, and the conversion of the Bataan plant was an idea that residents of Morong, Bataan, were "very cautious" about.

"(The BNPP) was designed as a nuclear plant. There has to be technical studies if the conversion is feasible," Roman told the INQUIRER.

"They're like an apple and an orange. If it's economically feasible, then the national government will have to decide how much of the BNPP's facilities will be used," he said.

Series of protests

In the 1980s, Morong residents and cause-oriented groups launched a series of protests to force the Marcos government to mothball the project. It was during the term of former President Corazon Aquino that the demand was heeded.

Long-term solutions

Bataan Gov. Enrique Garcia, on the other hand, said that converting the Bataan plant to a gas-fired plant would rescue the BNPP from deterioration.

But the long-term solution to the power crisis is to scrap the oil deregulation law, said Garcia. *With reports from Gil C. Cabacungan Jr, Tonette Orejas, PDI Central Luzon Desk*

NEVER-BEEN-USED control panel that had been gathering nothing but derision, dust and debt since 1984.

TONETTE T. OREJAS/PDI CENTRAL LUZON DESK

LAST WE KNEW: The costs of a useless nuclear plant

By Abigail L. Ho

FERDINAND Marcos' government borrowed $300 million from a number of foreign banks in the late 1970s to bankroll the construction of the 620-MW Bataan Nuclear Power Plant.

Owing to interest charges, the total amount of the loans has ballooned to more than $2 billion.

Over the coming years, Filipino taxpayers will still have to endure the burden of some $80.4 million more in debt repayments, administration Sen. Ralph Recto has estimated.

This year, the government is scheduled to remit $38.2 million in payments to two Japanese, one Swiss and two American banks, he said.

"If what we will pay for the useless plant's debt next year will be distributed among poor households as a power charge subsidy instead, we can provide P300 worth of electricity per month to 594,440 homes for a year," he said.

Built in 1984, the nuclear plant has not produced a single watt of electricity.

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Narito ang ilan sa inyong mga sagot. Text na!
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Pepe Sanchez (Don Manuel, Quezon City)
"uubra yan sa 22ong macho pagkat ang machong 22o ay ang lalakng doplinado isa lang tama na!"
Jess Matubis (Parañaque City)

Arnold gets flak for 'girlie men' remark

From page A1

special interests.

Some Democrats grumbled that the remark was sexist and homophobic. The governor didn't apologize.

"People call me 'girlie man' when I sit at the hairdressing salon and get my hair, you know, blown or get my fingernails polished," Schwarzenegger told Leno.

"Who cares? They feel sensitive. I think maybe the truth hurts. I don't know," he added with a chuckle.

From SNL skit

The governor lifted the "girlie men" remark from an old "Saturday Night Live" skit in which two pompous weightlifters repeatedly use it to needle those who don't meet their standards of physical perfection.

Schwarzenegger's "Tonight Show" appearance marked the one-year anniversary of his surprise entry into last year's historic recall election. It was on Aug. 6, 2003, that he startled even some of his own advisers by announcing on Leno's stage that he would become a candidate for governor.

There was no dramatic announcement Friday. When asked by Leno if he would seek re-election, Schwarzenegger said to wait until next year.

Speech at Republican convention

Schwarzenegger, considered a political moderate, is scheduled to deliver a prime-time speech at the Republican National Convention in New York City, but that didn't stop him from lamenting the nasty partisan tone on the presidential campaign trail.

"It's very divisive," he said. "It's really sad in a way ... I think the country suffers because of it, rather than bringing people together and, you know, being more civil."

Schwarzenegger also let Leno in on one secret: He can say "California" like everyone else.

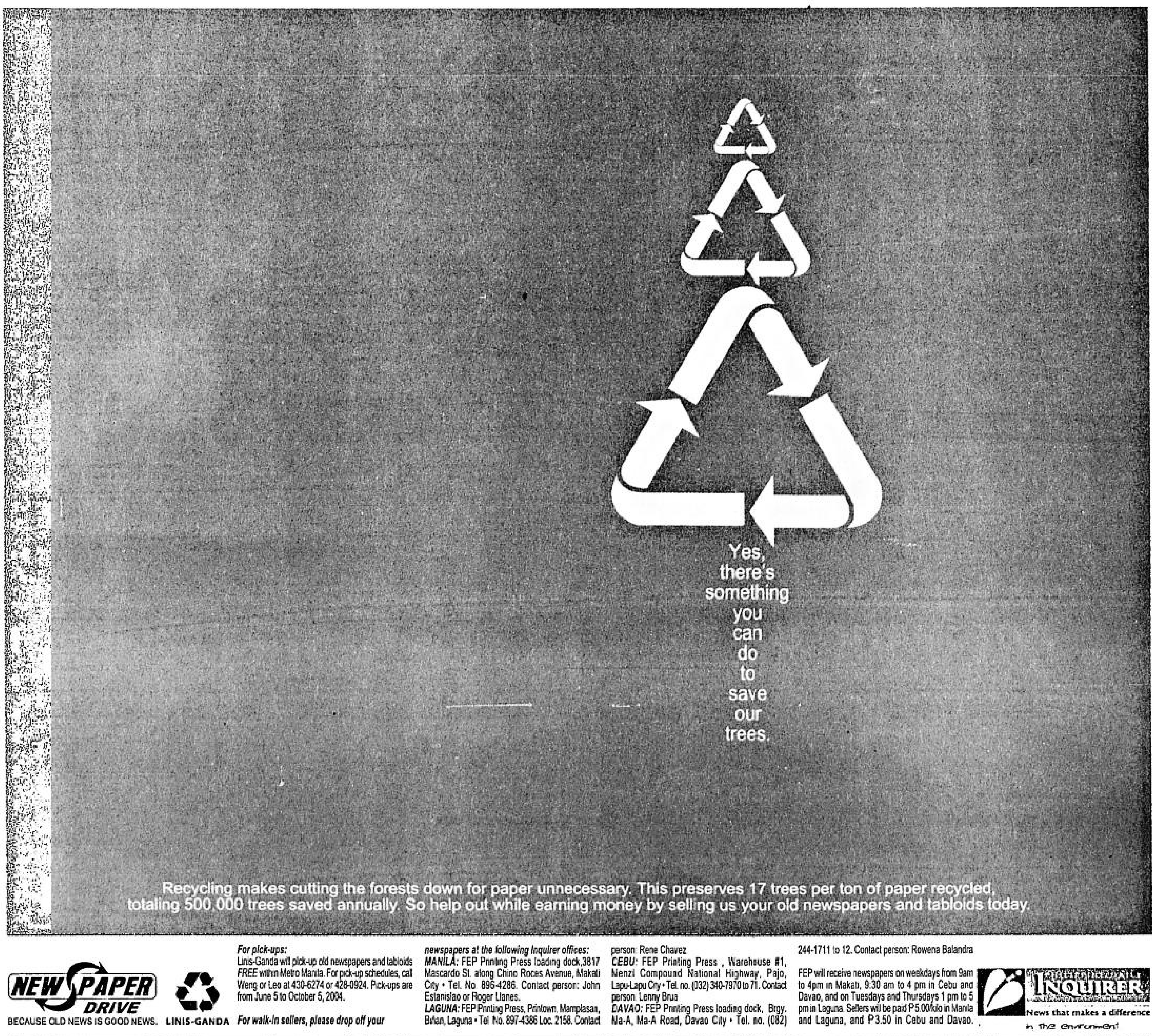
California, here it comes

The governor, who was born and raised in Austria, has long pronounced his adopted state's name with a hard "K" and a lilt: "Kah-li-fornia," according to the phonetic description on a whimsical state billboard recently put up in several cities.

But prodded by Leno, Schwarzenegger pronounced California with only a trace of an accent.

"I think you're from Fresno and this whole Austrian thing is phony," Leno said.

AP



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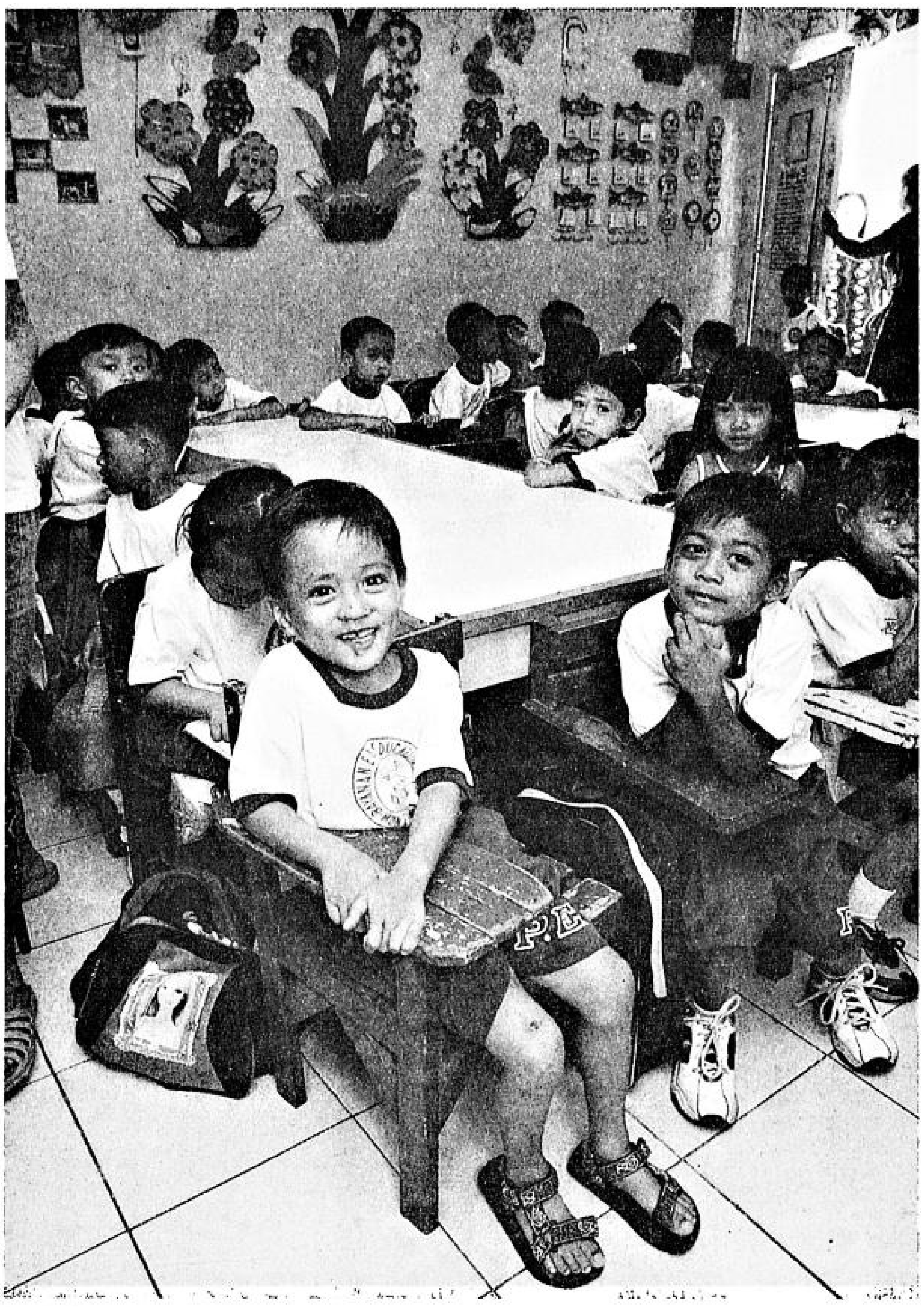

TOTS ENROLLED in one of Muntinlupa City's 66 day care centers take a break from school work. For a minimal fee, parents from depressed areas are able to give their children access to quality early education through the city's progressive learning program. ERIK ARAZAS

Muntinlupa leads way in day care

By Margaux C. Ortiz

FOR CESAR Isla, 38, his son John Paulo's education is top priority.

Isla, of Barangay Putatan, Muntinlupa City, brings his 5-year-old son to the Bruger Day Care Center every morning and waits for John for two hours until his classes are over.

"Day care education prepares my son for elementary school," Isla said. "Instead of playing in the streets and learning nothing, this is a better alternative."

Isla admitted he does not have the resources to pay for an expensive day care education.

"We are happy that for a minimal voluntary fee, our children can get quality education early in life here in the barangay," he said.

Isla is just one of many parents, most of them vendors and factory workers, from eight barangays whose children benefit from the city government's day care service program.

There are 66 day care centers in the city, with 5,411 children enrolled for the school year. Not many cities can top that feat.

For a voluntary fee of P30 to P50 a month, children in the city's depressed areas learn their ABCs from competent teachers in well-equipped day care centers.

Muntinlupa Mayor Jaime Fresnedi said professionalizing the city's day care program was one of his priorities when he was first elected as mayor in 1998.

At the start of his term, the Early Childhood Education Division (ECED) was created through an ordinance to focus on the day-care program.

"Muntinlupa is the only city that has an office on early childhood education separate from that of the Department of Social Welfare and Development," Fresnedi said, adding that the emphasis on day care is in keeping with his policy of making education his number one priority.

Fresnedi stressed that products of day care centers are more active and have no problem adjusting to their environment outside their homes than children who were not able to avail of this opportunity.

"Day care children do not cry on their first day in elementary school," Fresnedi observed. "Many even skip preparatory school and go straight to Grade One."

ECED Head Maricel Dacuycuy said the city's day care program began in 1976 as an affordable alternative to prepare children for primary education.

Dacuycuy said that the program serves as a preparatory learning scheme to as many as five percent of 3 to 5-year-olds in depressed areas found in the city's eight barangays.

With the P9.6 million allotted for the ECED this year, they were able to purchase quality instructional materials like books and educational toys for the children, and ensure that the 68 teachers and day care workers are well-paid and well-trained.

For at least two hours daily, nursery, kindergarten and preparatory students learn about self-discovery, family, environment, country and the world in mostly air-conditioned classrooms, Dacuycuy said.

"With the student-teacher ratio at 1:79, a qualified teacher-aide helps keep the children's eyes glued on the teacher," Dacuycuy said.

The city government's full support also helped ease up their problem on overcrowding in the centers, she added.

In the works is an activity book they plan to publish, based on learning activities prescribed by the DSWD's Weekly Program Activity Guide aimed at standardizing session plans in all the day care centers.

Dacuycuy stressed that schooling does not end in the summer when classes are over.

"We have a summer school on wheels program where we go around the barangay teaching the children," she said.

"This way, the children would not be bored and forget what they learned in school."

Apart from educational programs for the children, Dacuycuy said the ECED also conducts seminars for parents and the barangay.

Dacuycuy feels their job is hardly over.

"There are still many parents in the depressed areas who are reluctant to recognize the value of early childhood education," she said.

"We would like to reach out and tell them that everyone in the community should be involved in molding children into responsible. and well-educated adults," Dacuycuy said.

Enrolling them in day care could be a good start.

METROBRIEFS

Manila Council bucks two-child policy bill

THE MANILA City Council unanimously opposed last week House Bill No. 16, or the proposed two-child policy law, after it passed a consolidated resolution authored by 6th District Councilor Bonjay Isip-Garcia, and 3rd District Councilor Manuel Zarcal. Isip-Garcia said that a country's booming population was not a hindrance to its prosperity but a catalyst of economic growth. For his part, Zarcal pointed out that the proposed law ran counter to the Constitution, which says in Section 3 of Article 15 that the state shall guarantee "the right of spouses to found a family in accordance with their religious convictions and the demands of responsible parenthood."

Las Piñas traffic enforcers retrain

LAS PIÑAS City Mayor Imelda T. Aguilar has ordered the retraining of all traffic enforcers to strengthen and efficiently man the city's major thoroughfares. In line with that, the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority conducted last week a refresher course on traffic enforcement and management. It was attended by 143 Las Piñas traffic enforcers who were updated on the latest traffic enforcement methods to instill discipline in motorists and pedestrians.

Hope for troubled marriages

MARRIED couples who need healing in their relationship can seek help from a Retrouvaille weekend scheduled on Aug. 13 to 15 at the Mother of Mercy Spiritual Center, SVD Road, Barangay San Jose (near San Pablo Seminary), Tagaytay City. Retrovaille (French for rediscovery) is a program designed to help heal and renew stressed, troubled and hurting marriages. Although a Catholic ministry, it is open to non-Catholics. The Retrovaille program consists of a three-day weekend starting Friday evening and ending on Sunday afternoon, and six follow-up Saturday afternoon sessions. For information, couples may call Fr. David Clay at 523-3361 or (0918) 9020511; Tom and Ruby del Castillo at 931-8413 and 932-3750 or (0918) 9232973; and Nes and Indy Sitaca at 938-9719.

Spare seeds, santol lovers warned

By Leila B. Salaverria

AFTER dinner in her Cavite home last week, 56-year-old Conchita Morete had a piece of Bangkok santol for dessert.

Trouble was, she also ingested four seeds of the fruit.

The next day, Conchita was writhing in pain. A little over a week later, she had an operation at the Ospital ng Maynila after doctors found a hole in her large intestine caused by the seeds she had swallowed.

Morete's case is exactly what the Ospital ng Maynila hopes to prevent. Since 2001, its Department of Surgery, under its chair Dr. Reynaldo Joson, had been issuing an advisory warning the public not to swallow santol seeds because of the adverse complications it brings.

The advisory is not meant to make people stop eating santol, he said.

The surgeon's message is simple: "Don't swallow the seeds."

Joson, also the Assistant Medical Director of the Manila Doctors Hospital, said that since 2001, the Ospital ng Maynila was able to monitor around 200 cases nationwide of patients needing medical treatment because they swallowed santol seeds, either intentionally or unintentionally. Some of the patients had died in the process.

"The sharp ends of the seeds can perforate the intestine, especially when the seeds' fibers are removed," Joson said.

When the large intestine is perforated, the feces or body waste spills into the stomach cavity. This can lead to death through a body infection in the bloodstream.

Joson said most of the patients who suffer adverse effects after ingesting the seeds are 45 years old or older. This is because older people's large intestines may be weaker due to various illnesses.

Younger people who swallow santol seeds usually pass the seeds during regular bowel movement.

Those who are spared the worst are the ones whose conditions are diagnosed early. If the problem is identified immediately, countermeasures can be taken at once, Joson said.

Morete, a school teacher in Leyte for 10 years, said she had learned her lesson.

"Having a colostomy, is not a joke," she said, referring to the operation that recovered two seeds from her intestine.

"I also want to warn the public that swallowing the seeds could be dangerous to your health."

Water firms to pay taxes thru swap

By Tina G. Santos

THE METROPOLITAN Waterworks and Sewerage System (MWSS) and its two concessionaires have agreed to settle back taxes they owe the Quezon City government by offering their properties to pay their obligations.

Properties placed on the swapping block include several lots owned by the MWSS in Barangays Commonwealth, Bagong Silangan, Fairview, Pansol and Socorro now used either as school sites, parks, playgrounds and barangay outposts.

The water agency has an outstanding real estate tax liability of P900 million with the city government incurred in the past 20 years.

Manila Water Company Inc. only managed to pay the city about P2.7 million, while Maynilad Water Services Inc. paid P2 million, according to city treasurer Victor Endriga.

Murder suspect turns tables on 2 witnesses

By Tina G. Santos

THE PRIME suspect in the murder of entertainment writer Eli Formaran is now accusing two witnesses of having done the crime.

Eric Alba filed murder, qualified theft and arson charges on Friday against Froilan Francia and Reynaldo Santiago, Formaran's driver and caretaker respectively, before the Quezon City Prosecutor's Office.

In his complaint, Alba claimed that Formaran was alive but gasping for breath when he left him inside his room at his Quezon City townhouse last May 26.

He said Formaran tried to attack him after he rejected his sexual advances so he defended himself. However, his affidavit did not say how he staved off Formaran's alleged attacks.

Alba said he was surprised to hear over the radio that Formaran had died due to stab wounds and his room set on fire.

He then said that the victim's employees killed Formaran.

Santiago and Francia, however, maintained that Alba was the last one with Formaran before the killing was discovered.

Caloocan ABC chair, cop slain in ambush

By Tina G. Santos

THE CHAIR of the Association of Barangay Captains in Caloocan City and his police bodyguard were ambushed and killed in San Jose del Monte City yesterday.

Initial police reports said Roger Saraza, 58, and SPO1 Domingo Villavicencio were waylaid by at least six men armed mostly with .45-caliber pistols at about noon.

Northern Police District Director Marcelino Franco said the victims were in a white Nissan Frontier on their way to a routine weekend visit to Saraza's pig farm when ambushed in Barangay Dulong Bayan.

Police said the suspects fled on board a commandeered tricycle towards Barangay Muzon.

San Jose del Monte police are looking at business rivalry as a probable motive in the shooting.

As ABC chair, Saraza also sat in the Caloocan City Council as sectoral representative. *With a report from Carmela Reyes, PDI Central Luzon Desk*

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fuel saving tips

CHECK RADIATOR FOR COOLANT AND WATER LEVEL.

Check radiator if it has enough coolant and radiator hose for leaks.

A public service message of:
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
PIP PHILIPPINE INSTITUTE OF PETROLEUM
and the PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

DNA test vital in SuperFerry probe

By Leila B. Salaverria

IDENTIFYING tragedy victims using DNA testing is relatively new in the country but it has proven vital in returning the remains of 27 SuperFerry 14 fatalities to their families.

As of last count, 27 of 62 bodies recovered from the ill-fated ship have been identified through DNA testing conducted by the NBI forensics team led by Dr. Idabel Pagulayan.

A DNA test uses the unique genetic code of every human being in identifying a person.

The rest of the 62 recovered remains were identified by their families, through clothing or identification cards, said Pagulayan.

Three of these passengers were identified through their ID cards only last month, when their bodies were found on one of the decks of SuperFerry 14.

The NBI has reported that only 54 passengers of SuperFerry 14, which caught fire off Corregidor Island last Feb. 27, remain missing.

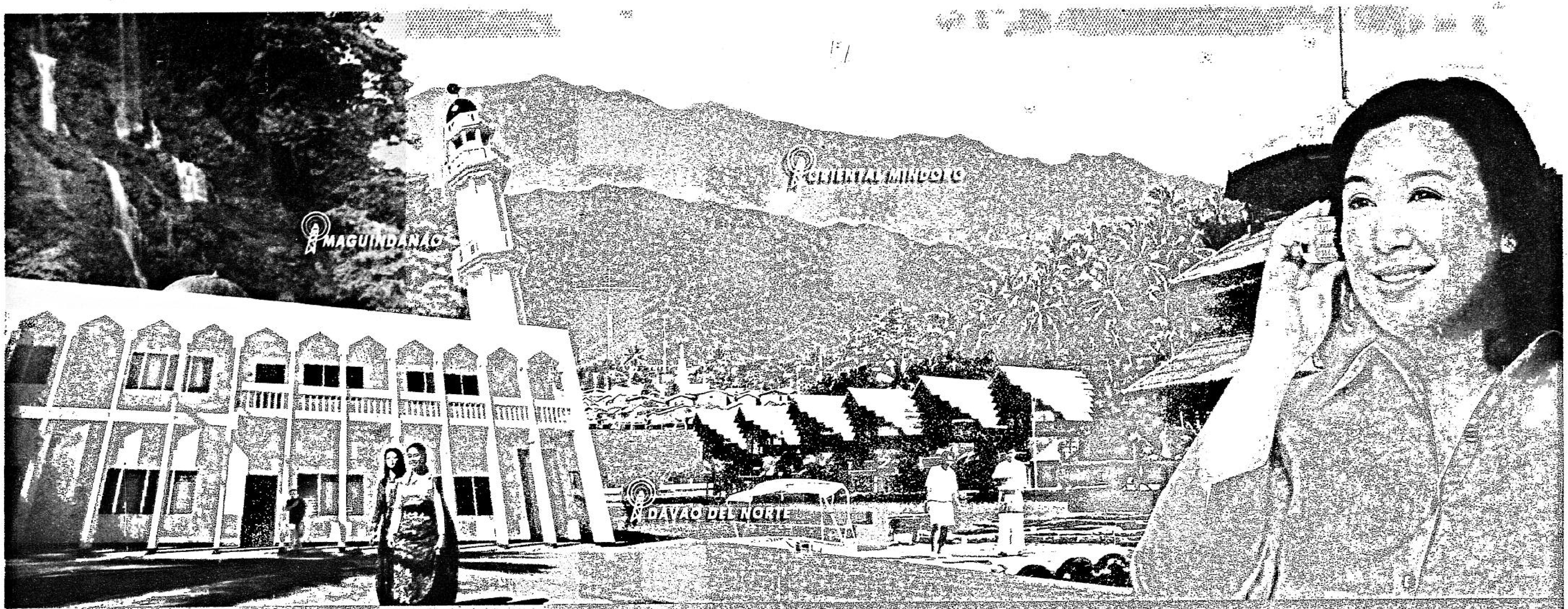
Pagulayan said that based on the information that they had gathered, 116 passengers were originally reported missing, but figures released by SuperFerry 14 management showed that only 111 passengers had family members looking for them.

Pagulayan expressed hope that of the 54 remaining missing passengers, four would be identified soon since the NBI was conducting DNA testing on four bodies retrieved from the ship last month.

DNA testing takes at least a month to complete.

According to Pagulayan, 55 body bags have been brought to the NBI for DNA testing, but the number of bags does not mean that they also contain the remains of 55 people.

She said there were bags that contained the remains of more than one person, noting that some of the bags bore mere body parts that belonged to two or more victims.



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BASKETBALL: Usab World Tour; 8 a.m. (r-10 p.m.); Solar Sports—The US Men's Team battle Serbia & Montenegro in this tune-up match for Athens.

BOXING: Freitas vs Corrales; 10 a.m. (r-7:30 p.m.); Solar Sports—Witness another explosive bout.

GOLF: LPGA Jamie Farr Owens Corning Classic; tomorrow at 4 a.m.; ESPN—Catch the final round of this LPGA event.

Schedules subject to change without prior notice.

LA SALLE'S Mark Cardona (left) swipes the ball away from UE's Luis Palaganas Jr.

AUGUST DELA CRUZ

Warriors surprise Archers; Tigers up

By Jasmine W. Payo

THE UNIVERSITY of the East Warriors are definitely the surprise kids of the 67th UAAP varsity basketball season.

Despite a rookie-laden roster under first-year coach Dindo Pumaren, the Warriors pulled a stunner by bringing down the De La Salle Archers, 82-79, yesterday at the Araneta Coliseum.

UE's dusky forward, KG Canaleta, shot a career-high 25 points and added 11 rebounds in another sensational performance. Paolo Hubalde backed him up with 20 points.

"I told my boys to keep it close. It was sad that (my brother) Franz lost but our team is hungrier than La Salle. Maybe it's because we have something to prove," said coach Dindo Pumaren, whose team also shocked favored Adamson ten days ago.

University of Santo Tomas also came out on top of a close contest, downing Adamson, 70-65, behind Jemal Vizcarra's 23 points.

UE, La Salle and UST ended their first-round campaign tied for third with 4-3 slates.

Adamson slipped to fourth at 3-4.

UE trailed by nine, 75-66, midway in the fourth quarter before Canaleta powered a rally that brought the Warriors within 76-77,1:09 remaining.

The Warriors finished off the Archers with a 6-2 run down the wire featuring four points by RJ Masbang.

In women's play Merenciana Arayi scored 25 points as the Lady Falcons ripped the Tigresses, 81-52, for their third consecutive win.

GAMES TODAY (*Araneta Coliseum*)
11:30 a.m.—Ateneo vs FEU (Women)
*2 p.m.—UP vs NU (Srs)
*4 p.m.—FEU vs Ateneo (Srs)
*Live on Studio 23

The scores:

Second game (Srs)

UST 70—Vizcarra 23, De Guzman 15, Luanzon 8, Dizon 8, Pribhdas 4, Manching 4, Cortez 4, Duncil 3, Evangelista 1, Espiritu 0, Cuan 0, Allera 0.

ADAMSON 65—Alonzo 16, Bono 14, Cabahug 13, Abadia 6, Canuday 5, Tiongco 4, Gansarosa 3, Tajonera 2, Hate 2, Poloyapoy 0, Hugnatan 0, Catabay 0, Johnston 0.

Quarters: 17-14, 34-33, 52-50, 70-65

Third game (Srs)

UE 82—Canaleta 25, Hubalde 20, Masbang 10, Palaganas 10, Arellano 9, Dizon 5, Saguindel 3, Napo 0, Labagala 0.

LA SALLE 79—Yeo 17, Cardona 14, Casio 13, Tang 10, Maierhoffer 8, Gaco 7, Araña 6, Gatchalian 2, Benitez 2, Cabatu 0.

Quarters: 21-15, 41-43, 61-68, 82-79.

Tondo girl archer unfazed by great odds

By June Navarro

EIGHT years ago, a dusky, petite girl from Tondo, Manila, was curiously watching a bunch of athletes deftly launching arrows at a target made of haystack.

It was the 1996 national open archery and Jasmin Figueroa, then 11 years old, came to cheer for her cousin, former national athlete Adelinda Figueroa.

Little did Jasmin know that she would soon pick up a bow and arrow and even surpass the exploits of Adelinda when the now 19-year-old lass shoots for fame and glory in the Olympics in Athens, Greece, next week.

"When I read in the papers that I qualified for the Olympics, my siblings and I were ecstatic. It was unimaginable. I never thought I would be in the Olympics, not in my wildest dreams," said Figueroa in Filipino.

Only when National Archery Association of the Philippines secretary general Ligaya Manalang confirmed the report of Figueroa's going to the Olympics that she realized the impact of the startling news.

ATHENS 2004

Figueroa was chosen over veteran Jennifer Chan and contemporary Rachel Cabral by the International Archery Federation (Fita), the world governing body of the sport, as a wild-card entry in the Olympiad.

The incoming third year BS Physical Education student at the University of Makati immediately plunged into rigid training capped by stints in international tournaments in Turkey and Spain.

Although she landed 72nd out of over a hundred archers in Turkey's Golden Arrow championships and 24th in the Madrid University Games, Figueroa is confident of hurdling overwhelming odds in Athens.

"I used a substandard equipment back then. Now, they gave me a bow which allowed me to hit the target with ease," said Figueroa.

"There's this special feeling that I could perform beyond my limits. I'm tense and at the same time excited," said Figueroa, who singled out the Koreans led by 2000 Sydney Olympics gold medalist Yu Mi Jing as the heavy favorites.

Figueroa, however, swears that all the entries have equal chances at the gold medal, pointing out that it all boils down to conditioning, concentration and the equipment to be used.

"It's about focus and balance. A slight twitch of the arm or body could yield undesirable results and this could happen to anybody even to Yu Mi Jing," said Figueroa.

A week prior to her departure to Athens last Friday, Figueroa trained daily at the University of the Philippines archery range under the guidance of national coach Henry Manalang.

Figueroa also competed in the 2003 World Championships in New York before seeing action in the Grand Prix in Thailand where she finished 12th out of 30 and the second Grand Prix in Malaysia where she landed 14th out of 30.

"Those tournaments helped me become a better player. I hope to maximize those experiences when I compete in the Olympics," said Figueroa, whose two sisters and brother are former archers as well.

Figueroa hopes to return from the Olympiad as a source of pride not only for her family but the entire country as well.

FIGUEROA

AUGUST DELA CRUZ

Another mission for Pagdanganan

TOURISM Sec. Roberto "Obet" Pagdanganan and Philippine Sports Commission chair Eric Buhain will be doing more than cheer for the 16-man Philippine team to the Athens Olympics.

PAGDANGANAN

Pagdanganan and Buhain are leaving on Wednesday for Greece hoping to also get some pointers from the organizing committee of the Olympiad which the country can use when it stages the 2005 Southeast Asian Games here.

His priority, according to the Philippine SEA Games organizing committee chair, is to learn firsthand from the Olympic organizers the mechanics of staging the SEAG here and in the process capture the overall title.

"As I have always said, we have two missions in the SEA Games," said Pagdanganan, "that is to make sure (SEA neighbors) enjoy their stay here by organizing the Games very well and at the same time beat them for the (overall) title.

"We will beat them in a hospitable way." Buhain said he would study how the Greek government played its role in the Olympics, from building infrastructure down to the marketing of the Games.

"I'm sure we can learn a lesson or two on how to host a sporting spectacle of this scale," said Buhain. "In our own little way, we are trying to stage our little Olympics here next year."

Pagdanganan said he is optimistic the P1 billion projected budget for the SEA Games would be well worth it because of the big number of foreign tourists expected to visit the country.

The PSC had earlier estimated that P406 million will be spent for the repairs of the 14 government-owned facilities tapped for the SEAG. Some P100 million more will also be needed to purchase technical equipment including the giant scoreboards to be placed at the Rizal track and football stadium.

Half of the estimated budget will spent for the day-to-day operations of the Games, including the opening and closing ceremonies.

The main bulk of the Olympic delegation, including seven athletes, left for Athens Friday. The rest of the athletes will be proceeding to Athens from their separate training bases abroad.

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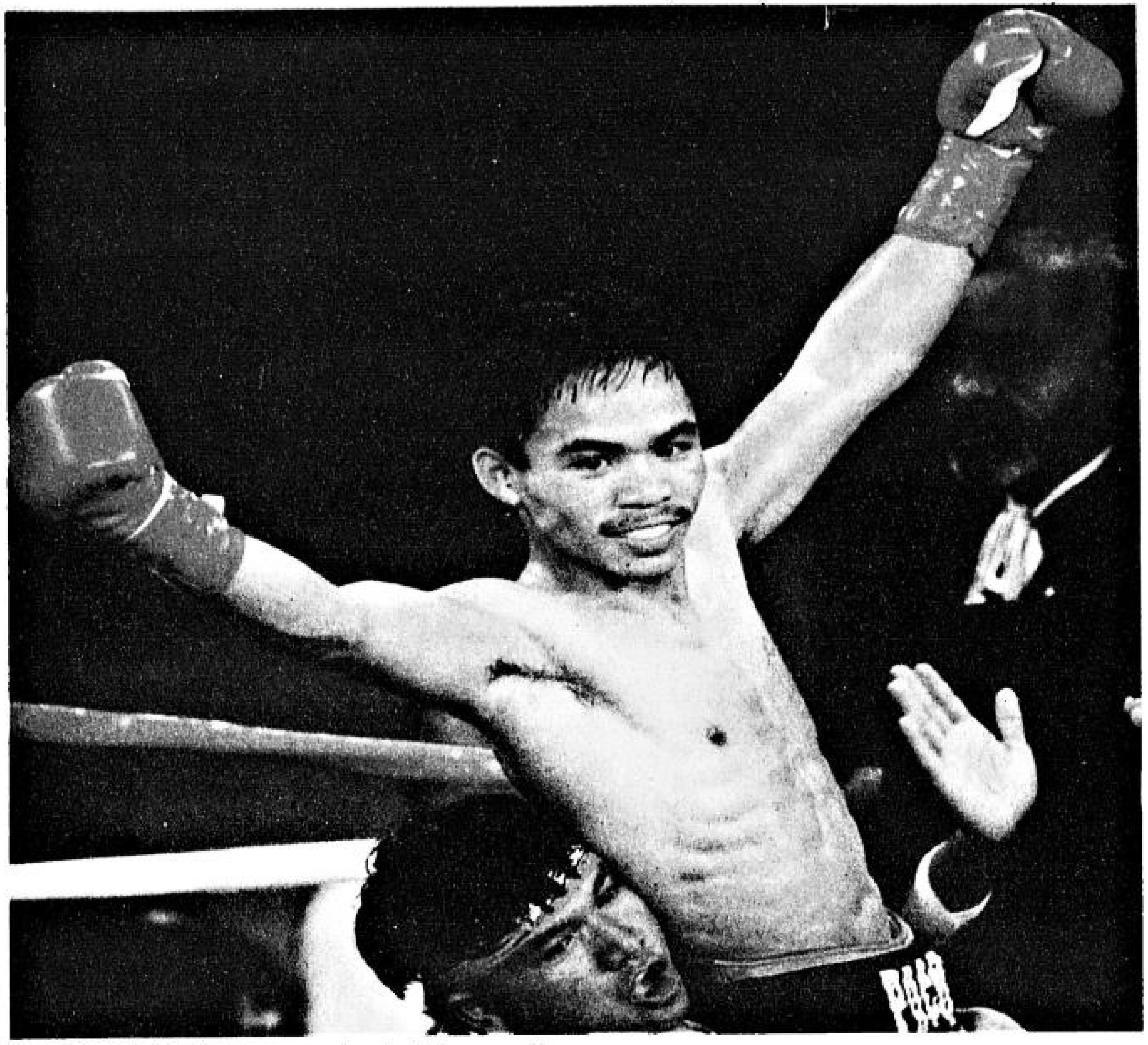
No rematch for Manny, Manuel until next year



PACQUIAO in his winning moment against Emmanuel Lucero

By Salven L. Lagumbay, *Contributor*

THE EAGERLY awaited rematch between Manny Pacquiao and WBA-IBF featherweight champion Juan Manuel Marquez won't happen until February next year.

This developed following another failed negotiation to pit the two fighters again after their epic battle last May 8, which ended in a draw.

There were initial negotiations to pit Marquez and Pacquiao right after their first battle, but talks also bogged down after the parties failed to agree on the financial aspect of the rematch.

Pacquiao, acknowledged as the universal featherweight champion, and Marquez fought to a 12-round draw in Las Vegas as the Mexican survived three knockdowns in the first round.

Promoter Bob Arum, in an interview with the Mexican press, has already expressed interest in the February play date. Arum promotes Marquez.

Legendary trainer Nacho Beristáin, who also manages Marquez, said his ward is already scheduled for a Sept. 18 defense against compatriot Orlando Salido in an undercard to the fight between Oscar De La Hoya and middleweight king Bernard Hopkins.

Pacquiao has recently resumed training in General Santos City, doing light workouts at the gym of businessman Rey Golingan inside the latter's City Country Homes Hotel.

The Filipino southpaw is slated to fly to the United States in the first week of September to hook up with trainer Freddie Roach in preparation for a planned November rematch with Marco Antonio Barrera.

Pacquiao is reportedly bent on putting an exclamation point to his first win over Barrera last November 15 where he stopped the erstwhile pound-for-pound king in the 11th-round of their scheduled 12-rounder.

Manotoc ties for 11th in British Srs

Musong R. Castillo

TOMMY Manotoc carded another five-over 77 Friday to finish in an 11th place tie in the British Senior Open Amateur championship won by American Kemp Richardson at The Berkshire in England.

The 55-year-old spearhead of many Philippine teams in the past wound up with a 226 total, 13 strokes behind Richardson, who turned in a 70 to nip countryman Robert Morris by two.

Manotoc, who became the first representative of the Philippines in the tournament regarded as the third major in England, played with nagging back pains in the final two rounds.

Five Americans finished in the top six with Scot Brian Grieve gate crashing the party by finishing third after a 75 for a 219 total.

Richardson, a 58-year-old stockbroker from Southern California and the 2001 winner, played a total of 22 holes on Friday, after rain halted second round play Thursday evening.

His second round 71 gave him a share of the lead with Grieve heading into the final round. After a bogey 6 in his opening hole for the final round, Richardson went on to knock down four birdies to win the title pulling away.

Richardson has now won the US Senior Amateur and the Seniors Amateur in Britain twice in the past four years.

Wizards trip foes

UNIVERSITY of Makati leaned on the endgame heroics of Gerald Lorica to frustrate Pamantasan ng Lungsod ng Pasay, 97-91, and register its third win in four matches in the NAASCU basketball tournament at the UM gym.

Lorica scored five of his game-high 29 points in the final 34 seconds to lift the Wizards to a hard-earned win over the Eagles, who rallied from a 14-point halftime deficit to keep the game close.

In the first game, St. Clare College nipped Centro Escolar University, 86-83, to improve to 3-2.

CAGE CLINIC

Children from Alfonso, Cavite, learn the finer points of playing basketball from Samboy Lim during the cage clinic of the SMC All-Stars in the town recently. The visit hosted by Alfonso Mayor Jose Peñano also featured an exhibition game by the touring goodwill ballclub of San Miguel Corp. opposite a local selection.

Paragua, Salvador triumph

GM-candidate Mark Paragua and NM-candidate Roland Salvador of the Philippines won their respective matches Friday night to share 2nd to 4th places with defending champion GM Davor Komljenovic at 5.0 points after six rounds of the XI Nice International Open Chess Tournament at the Grand Aston Hotel in Nice, France.

Paragua, handling black, beat compatriot IM Ronald Bancod in 24 moves of a Sicilian-Rosollimo variation while Salvador upset IM Aurelien Dunis of France via 55 moves of a Catalan Opening.

IM Namig Gouliev of Azerbaijan holds the solo lead with 5.5 points after demolishing GM Nenad Sulava of Croatia 68 moves of Queen's Gambit Accepted.

IM Yves Rañola beat compatriot NM Rolly Martinez in 28 moves of King's Indian Defense-Four Pawns Attack to climb to 4.5 points.

Cebuano IM Joseph Sanchez and NM Rolando Nolte (ELO 2389) were at 4.0 points following victories over separate opponents.

NM Marlon Bernardino

RP-Cebuana Lhuillier learns lesson from Jones Cup stint

RP Cebuana Lhuillier may have fallen short of its objective of surpassing the 5th place finish of the Philippines in the 2002 Jones Cup International basketball tournament, but its stint in the 2004 edition was worth the experience and lessons learned.

The team's 1-7 win-loss record at the recent Jones Cup in Taipei, indeed looks disappointing, but national team manager Jean Henri Lhuillier understands the situation.

"To be honest, I was not satisfied by what happened, I am a sportsman and I can accept losing by two, three points, but then after seeing some of the games myself, I understand better than ever the need for a long-term development program for the national team, something that we have started already," said Lhuillier. "Aside from facing some teams that were bigger and taller, we also played games with teams who have been playing together for a long time, and very familiar with the international style of basketball, for us, that was the very first time the team is playing in a tournament."

Assistant team manager Danny Francisco also cited the current experience of the American team composed of NBA players who are struggling against European teams, even losing badly to Italy.

For the record, RP Cebuana Lhuillier lost by wide margins to some teams like eventual champion Chinese Taipei White, 114-79, and the Blue Team, 88-69, also to defending champion Australia, represented by the Perth Wildcats, 119-79, to South Korea's all-star collegiate team, 83-65, and Japan, 84-68. Cebuana Lhuillier put up a gallant stand and just lost steam against Canada which won, 85-70, and the tall Qatar team, which pulled out a 10-point victory 80-70. The Philippines routed a tall but young German team, 101-50, for its only victory.

Lhuillier pointed out that the Chinese Taipei team that won the championship was formed three years ago, while the Koreans have been playing for over a year and compete regularly as a team outside their country.

Lhuillier's sponsorship agreement with the Basketball Association of the Philippines is up to 2006.

Cardinals dedicate win to slain teammate

BAGUIO CITY—This one was for Ryan Ancheta.

Playing on their homecourt for the first time since tragedy struck, the Baguio Cardinals played their hearts out for their slain comrade to subdue the Iloilo Warriors, 82-73, on Friday in the NBC (National Basketball Championship) finals at the packed University of Baguio gym.

Jun Balare, one of the late Ancheta's closest friends, scored eight of his 19 points in the fourth and final quarter to stave off Iloilo's bid to win a game in its northern swing.

Former St. Francis of Assisi playmaker Edward Allado Jr. paced Iloilo with 18 points in the tournament sponsored by Panasonic, Spring Cooking Oil, Cebu Ferries, Air Philippines, Sulpicio Lines, Nature's Spring Mineral Water, Supercat, Accel and Molten.

Ancheta and Baguio team captain Joel Bona were involved in a stabbing incident last July 13, with Ancheta sustaining a fatal stab wound in the chest while Bona survived.

Bona was made a temporary assistant coach while recovering from his injuries.

Ancheta's No. 5 jersey was retired in simple but moving ceremonies participated in by his immediate family, former teammates, league officials and UB representatives.

The Cardinals improved to 3-1 while the Warriors fell to 5-5 after absorbing their fourth straight loss.

The scores:

BAGUIO 82—Balares 19, Giron 14, Fontanilla 12, Ton 11, Navarro 8, Tiongson 6, Valdez 4, Roque 2, Mondina 2, Mapanao 2, Sagad 2.

ILOILO 73—Allado 18, Sanz 14, Sayon 11, Leonida 9, Marucot 6, Seneres 4, Poral 2, Sencil 2, Moreno 2.

SPORTSWATCH

Karate World Cup at Megatrade

THE ASSOCIATION for the Advancement of Karatedo (AAK) is hosting the 13th KOI Karate World Cup at the Megatrade Halls 1, 2 and 3 of SM Megamall, Mandaluyong City on Aug. 13-15. More than 600 entries from 25 countries have registered for the tournament. Competitions will be in kata and kumite events for male and female karateka from eight years old to over 35 years old (veterans). An international training course and instructors seminar will be held at the St. Benilde Gym of La Salle Greenhills from Aug. 9-12, 5-9 p.m. Countries that have confirmed participation are Singapore, Hong Kong, Vietnam, Kuwait, Fiji, New Zealand, Australia, Scotland, Northern Ireland, Netherlands, Germany, Slovenia, Italy, Russia, India, Malaysia, Japan, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Qatar, Taiwan, Latvia, Egypt, Iran and host Philippines.

SPCBA wins volleyball opener

SAN PEDRO College of Business Administration trounced host University of Perpetual Help Dalta System-Calamba right in its home turf to open its campaign in the 5th Southern Luzon Colleges and Universities Athletic Association (SLCUAA) at the UPHDS-Calamba Gymnasium. The SP Tigers banked on their swift set plays and booming spikes to dominate the UPHDS Altas players, 25-7, 25-14, 25-23, in a performance that served notice of their goal to win the title right in their first year of participation in volleyball. "We are very hopeful of a good finish. We have been preparing for this tournament since summer," said Susana Macaraig, athletic director of SPCBA. A colorful opening ceremony kicked off the 5th year of the SLCUAA, which has in its calendar volleyball, table tennis and chess for its first phase. SLCUAA president Frank Viola of St. Francis of Assisi College System-Bacoor declared the games open while former Laguna Vice Gov. Dan Fernandez was the keynote speaker.

MCC unrated active chess today

THE AUGUST edition of MCC Unrated Active Chess gets under way at 10 a.m. today at the J&F Divino Bldg. at 967 Aurora Blvd., near LRT 2 Anonas Station in Quezon City. Open to beginners, amateurs and rated players with NCFP active ratings not over 1800, the event offers P3,000 to the champion. Interested parties must register at the venue site at least before the tournament starts or call 826-8560, 435-8412 and 0916-8521069.

RP Collegiate Badminton Open

DEL Monte 202 and Del Monte Fruit Express, in partnership with the Philippine Badminton Association, challenge die hard badminton college enthusiasts to pick up their rackets and join the Del Monte 202 Cup: The First Philippine Collegiate Badminton Open. The tournament is open to all college and university students from any of the DepEd/CHED accredited schools, from 18-25 years old, who have a taste for competition! Players will test their skills in ladies' singles, men's singles, ladies' doubles, men's doubles and mixed doubles. A cash prize of P25,000 are up for grabs. Deadline for registration is on Aug. 31 at 5 p.m. Elimination and knockout games will be held Sept. 11, 12, 18, 19, 25 and 26 at The Zone, Malugay St., Makati. Semifinals will be played Oct. 6-7 at the SM Megamall Atrium. For inquiries, call 840-4444 and 247-0757 or e-mail collegiate—2004@yahoo.com.

Halikinu Radio features Intal, Kramer

CATCH live interviews with JC Intal and Doug Kramer of the Ateneo Blue Eagles, Coach John Flores and members of the Ateneo Lady Eagles, Indie bands Ciudad and the Itchyworms on Halikinu Radio, tomorrow at 9 p.m. on NU 107.5 FM. The show is hosted by PBA sportscaster Mico Halili with PBA all-star Olsen Racela and MTV VJ Patty Laurel as special guest co-hosts.

Marikina City hosts women's football

MARIKINA City has entered into an arrangement with the Philippine Football Federation to host two major women's football events this month. The PFF's Under-19 and Women's Open tournaments will be hosted by the city government in coordination with the Marikina City Football Association of which Mayor Marides C. Fernando is chairperson. More than 300 women booters from over 20 provinces will be billeted at the new Marikina Hotel for the tournament, which begins on Aug. 15, Sunday. Lea Santiago, head of Marikina Cultural Tourism, Trade and Investment and Promotions Office; Chuck Real, president of the Marikina City Football Association; Domeka Garamendi, PFF's deputy general secretary; and Ed Formoso, PFF's promotion and publicity person; are the prime movers of the event.

ASIAN KARTING STANDOUTS:Bosch Intelco-Team Philippines, supported by Bosch, Intelco, Accel Sportswear, Arrow Karts, Flat-Out Engines and PR Autosport, shone in the 3rd leg of the 2004 Asian Karting Open Championship in Combatoire, India. Left, Bosch-Intelco skipper JP Cariño finished 2nd in the Rotax Max Seniors while 13-year-old Marty Aguilar topped the Rotax Max Juniors.

Maresmo odd girl out in tennis final four

MONTREAL—Unseeded Elena Likhovtseva of Russia upset former world No. 1 Jennifer Capriati of the United States, 6-2, 7-5, in the quarterfinals of the Rogers Cup on Friday.

Second-seeded Amelie Mauresmo of France also advanced to Saturday's semifinals by beating 12th-seeded Karolina Sprem of Croatia, 3-6, 6-2, 6-4. Mauresmo is vying to win for the second time in three years.

Likhovtseva will play third-seeded Anastasia Myskina of Russia, the French Open champion who downed 13th-seeded Magdalena Maleeva of Bulgaria, 7-5, 6-1. Earlier this year, Likhovtseva beat Myskina on clay at Rome but lost to her on a hardcourt in Doha, Qatar.

"She's my best friend, so it will be really hard for us," Myskina said of Likhovtseva. "I just hope it's a good match."

Mauresmo will face 10th-seeded Vera Zvonareva of Russia, who defeated 16-year-old Russian-born teenager Tatiana Golovin of France, 6-3, 6-1, in a match interrupted for 30 minutes by rain. Mauresmo has won all three of her previous meetings with Zvonareva.

It is the second week in a row that three Russians have reached the semifinals of a WTA tournament. Last week in San Diego, Myskina, Zvonareva and Elena Dementieva reached the semis.

The Kazakhstán-born Likhovtseva ran down nearly every ball from fifth-seeded Capriati in an intense baseline battle between two 28-year-olds on the hardcourt at Uniprix Stadium.

"I knew I had to control Jennifer (from the baseline) from the beginning," said Likhovtseva, who has three wins in seven career meetings with Capriati. "But she played well, too."

Capriati recovered from a 5-3 second-set deficit to tie it 5-5, but Likhovtseva held service and then saw Capriati make unforced errors on the final two points of the match. Capriati, who won the tournament in 1991 and has been a finalist three times, is recovering from a hamstring injury and was in her first tournament since Wimbledon.

"She played her best," Capriati said. "It's like that every time and when I'm not 100 percent on my game, it just makes it more difficult. It opens the door for them to win."

Mauresmo got a scare from the hard-hitting, 19-year-old Sprem, who controlled the first set with a blazing serve that reached up to 190 kph (120 mph), as well as fierce groundstrokes.

She broke Mauresmo's serve in the first game, but she struggled with her own service while Mauresmo took over with a steady baseline game. *AP*

A PUMPED-UP Mauresmo will be the only non-Russian in the semifinals. REUTERS

Andre, Andy forge dream semifinals

CINCINNATI—Andre Agassi continued his good run at the Master Series to set up a dream semifinal against US Open champion Andy Roddick on Friday.

The 34-year-old 11th seed emerged from a battle of former world number ones with a 7-6, 6-3 victory over Spain's Carlos Moya, saving six set points in the first set.

The crowd favorite saved the set points in an epic tiebreak in which Moya went toe to toe with the four-time grand slam winner until Agassi's varied ground strokes induced the fourth seed to over-hit when trailing, 13-12.

"That tiebreak was definitely one for the memories—I don't remember playing one that deep before," Agassi said.

"To come out two days in a row and start raising the standard is what creates belief.

"It's important to me to beat some of the best in the world and get the belief in my game," added Agassi who has been suffering from a lengthy hip injury and repeatedly the subject of retirement speculation.

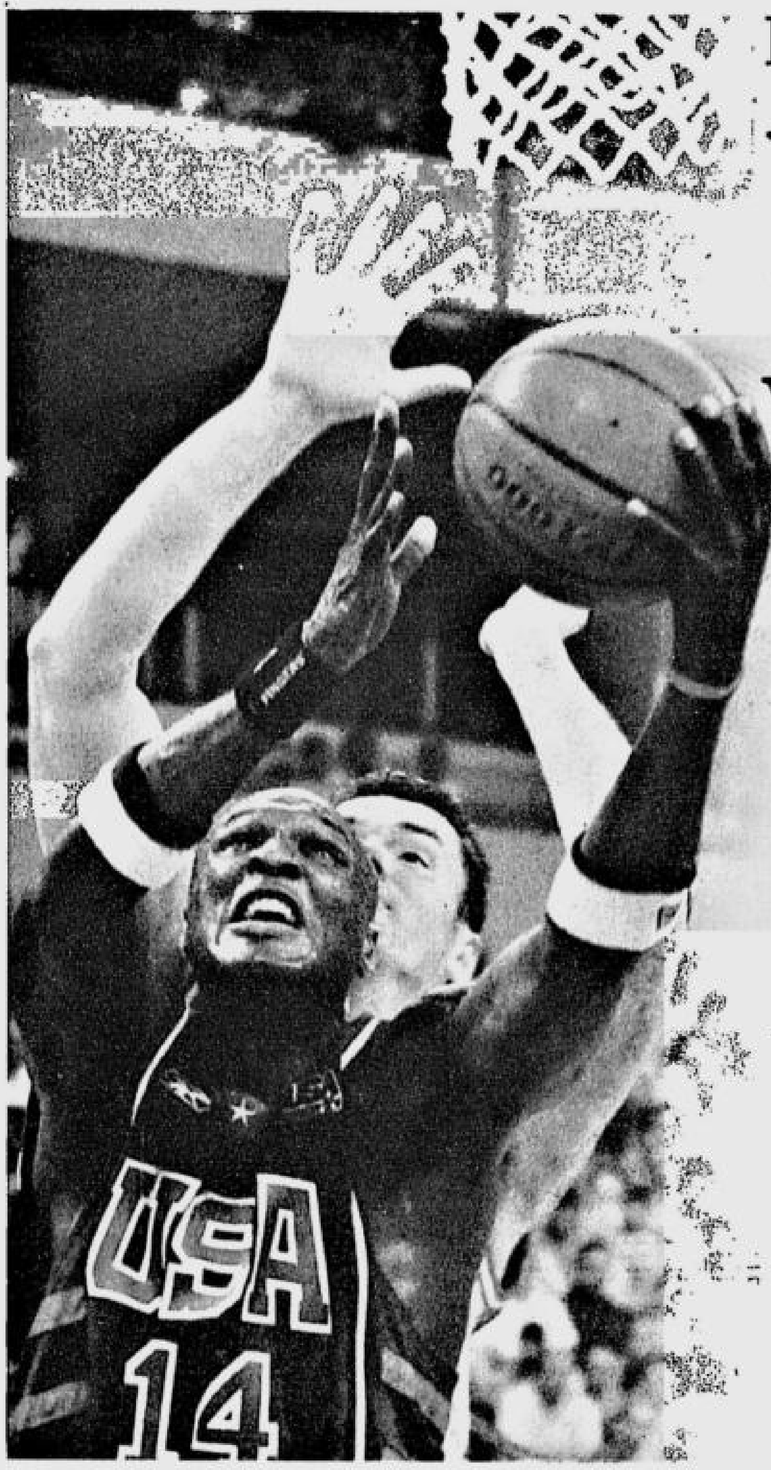
However, Agassi struck the ball with conviction against an opponent who possessed superior mobility and a fiercer forehand but was narrowly outsmarted by the tactical skill and technical variety of one of the game's all-time greats.

The victory created a confrontation of two generations of leading Americans.

Roddick, the 22-year-old defending champion, joined Agassi in the semis after a 6-3, 6-3 win over Tommy Haas, the former world No. 2 from Germany. *Reuters*

IMPRESSIVE, FINALLY

US five blasts world champs



ODOM (14) of the United States challenges Serbia and Montenegro's Dejan Tomasevic for an undergoal stab. AP

BELGRADE, Serbia-Montenegro—The US Olympic men's basketball team dominated world champion Serbia and Montenegro with defense in an impressive 78-60 exhibition victory on Friday.

The Americans took a partisan crowd out of the game by holding Serbia-Montenegro to just nine points in the second quarter, and their defense never relented. They showed none of the faults that hampered them in earlier games against Italy and Germany while shutting down an opponent that appeared equal parts overconfident and incompetent.

"We played hard and we tried to do what was right, and I think that was a significant step," US coach Larry Brown said.

Tim Duncan led the US team with 16 points, LeBron James added 11 and the entire team played with a level of determination that should go a long way toward re-establishing them as one of the favorites for the gold medal in Athens.

Igor Rakocevic led Serbia-Montenegro with 18 points, and 14 came from Dejan Bodiroga, often called the best player in Europe, but who did not start due to a knee injury. NBA players Predrag Drobnjak and Zarko Cabarkapa did not play as coach Zelimar Obradovic gave time to many of his younger players.

"It was his extreme desire to play," Obradovic said of Bodiroga. "He got an injection and played and that's it. With the (US) Olympic team playing in Belgrade, he definitely did not want to miss this game."

When the evening began, the US team wasn't picked to win the game. Local betting parlors listed the Serbian team as a 4-point favorite.

"We are the team that everyone wants to play their best basketball against," Lamar Odom said.

A 14-0 run to begin the second quarter put the Americans in control, and their defense the rest of the way kept the home team from making any kind of extended rally.

A crowd of about 18,000 showed their respect by standing and applauding the Americans as the game ended.

"We have a young team and are still learning about each other and hopefully that will improve as each of these games goes on," Brown said.

Rather than playing a zone as Italy and Germany did almost exclusively in the Americans' earlier exhibition games, the Serbian team went with a man-to-man scheme.

The US team also played man-to-man defense, and two of the game's best one-on-one moves were made by Bodiroga against Carmelo Anthony.

The game got away from the Serbs early in the second quarter, and the big run brought the Americans off the bench in jubilation. One of the most impressive stretches was a blocked shot by Shawn Marion that led to a breakaway, Marion sprinting downcourt to finish it with a dunk off a pass from Stephon Marbury. *AP*

Mallon licks wind, gains share of lead

SYLVANIA, Ohio—Meg Mallon won a mental battle with the wind to share the second-round lead with Angela Jerman in the Jamie Farr Owens Corning Classic.

"One hole I hit a 5-iron thinking the wind would knock it down," said Mallon, who shot a 2-under 69 Friday to match Jerman at 7-under 135.

"I clubbed up on the next hole and ended up chipping from the back fringe. It really plays with your mind."

And that was before the wind really started gusting in the afternoon.

The lowest score of the day was two shots higher than the first round as scores rose by an average of almost a half stroke for the 144-player field.

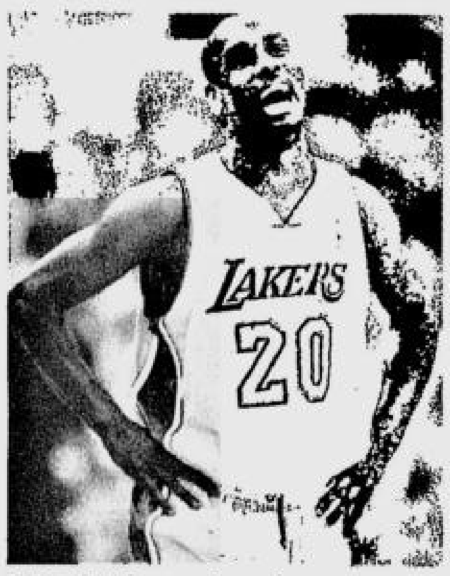
Jerman, in her second season on the LPGA Tour, had five birdies and two bogeys in a 68. She pulled a 6-iron shot into the trees—with the wind's help—on the 16th hole and had to take an unplayable lie when the ball ended up next to a trunk.

With no wins and 18 missed cuts in 40 career LPGA starts, Jerman tried not to think about where she stood on the leaderboard.

"My caddie did a great job of talking about everything except golf, so it was a very relaxed atmosphere," she said. "I felt like I was playing a practice round: Hit the shot, see where it ends up and go and hit it again."

Jerman had never been interviewed after a round before and said she would have to get advice from a couple of other pros before she appeared on television. *AP*

Lakers trade Payton; Heat give Shaq new help



PAYTON: Boston-bound AFP

BOSTON—The Los Angeles Lakers resumed their makeover by trading Gary Payton and Rick Fox to the Boston Celtics for Chucky Atkins, Marcus Banks and Chris Mihm on Friday.

The Celtics also received a conditional first-round draft pick and cash in the deal, and sent a second-round pick to the Western Conference champions.

The teams were once among the NBA's fiercest rivals, but Boston has fallen on hard times since winning its 16th championship in 1986. Since then, the Lakers have won five titles and lost three times in the Finals, including this year's upset by the Detroit Pistons.

The Lakers then traded Shaquille O'Neal to Miami and replaced coach Phil Jackson with Rudy Tomjanovich. Derek Fisher left for Golden State and Vlade Divac, Los Angeles' center from the early '90s, was brought back for another stint.

In Miami, O'Neal and Olympic guard Dwayne Wade received some help in the backcourt when the Heat signed free agent guard Damon Jones here Friday.

The deal, reportedly for two years and worth $2.5 million this season, puts Jones alongside 22-year-old Wade, who averaged 16.2 points last season and 18 points a game in 13 playoff appearances as a rookie.

Jones was fourth in the NBA with 11.4 assists a game and second in the league with a 4.64-to-1 ratio of assists to turnovers.

"We feel his playmaking abilities, shooting and experience will complement our team and help us accomplish our goals," Heat president Pat Riley said.

Despite struggling through his first year with the team, the 36-year-old Payton exercised a $5.4-million option to come back for another season.

A nine-time All-Star who averaged 18.3 points per game over his first 13 seasons, Payton averaged 14.6 points—his lowest since the 1992-93 season—and a career-low 4.2 assists in the regular season last year. He averaged 7.8 points and 5.3 assists in the playoffs.

In New Jersey, The Nets started the process of replacing Kenyon Martin on the front line by signing Eric Williams to a three-year, $12-million contract on Friday.

Williams has averaged 9.2 points and 3.4 rebounds in nine NBA seasons. He split last season between Boston and Cleveland, averaging 10 points and 4.0 rebounds in 71 games. *AP*

Yabes, Magno rule August Fore! at Wack Wack

THE CITRA tandem of Teddy Yabes and Jose Magno Jr. clinched the low gross plum with a 5-under-par 67 playing the modified scramble format in the August Fore! Invitational golf tournament recently at the exclusive Wack Wack west course.

With their handicap of 9, Yabes and Magno's net 58 also gave them the low net plum in the eighth staging of the fund-raiser that drew the support of Tan Yan Kee Foundation as major sponsor and Air 21, Portals, Performance Forex Corp., Friends of PDG Melito "Bimbo" Salazar and Nestlé Phils. as hole sponsors.

Tournament chair Bert Lina and Salazar lauded the companies whose sponsorships generated donations for project beneficiaries Tib-Ong Foundation, the Rotary Club of Diliman RI District 3780 and the Cannonette Nuns of Tagbilaran.

ABN-AMRO Bank, Allied Bank, May-Bank, Mount Makiling Rural Bank, International Container Terminal Services Inc., Yung Sung Industrial Phil. Inc., Fil-Anglo & Promotional Consultants, LG Atkimson Chemicals, Planters Development Bank, Manila Bank, Zuellig Pharma, Bingo Bonanza, Star Paper and San Miguel Corp. also backed the tourney as half sponsors.

Mitsubishi Motors Phils. Inc. staked a Mitsubishi Lancer as a hole-in-one prize but nobody won.

Winning their respective divisions were Jose Nepomuceno-Dennis Cortez in the gold division, Rudy Fulo-Nesty Isla in the silver division and John Casas-Freddie Villadelgado in the bronze division.

Nepomuceno and Cortez scored a net 63 to beat Rene Magadia-Martin Ledesma by two with Derek Ramsay-Andrew Chislette (66) placing third.

Bustamante keeps winning streak intact

FRANCISCO "Django" Bustamante and Santos Sambajon of the Philippines hurdled their respective rivals to remain undefeated in the Second Annual Master Billiard Big Apple 9-Ball Challenge yesterday at the Master Billiards in Queens, New York.

Bustamante drew a bye in the first round, then beat Bill Dunsmore and Norm Pomainville of New Jersey, respectively. He is slated to face American Johnny Archer, winner over Brian Yi, Noel Bensurto and Frankie Hernandez of the United States.

Sambajon also got a bye in the opener then crushed Jason Kane in the next round. He'll be pitted against Raj Hundal of the United Kingdom, who subdued Thomas Engert of Germany and Joe Tucker of the USA.

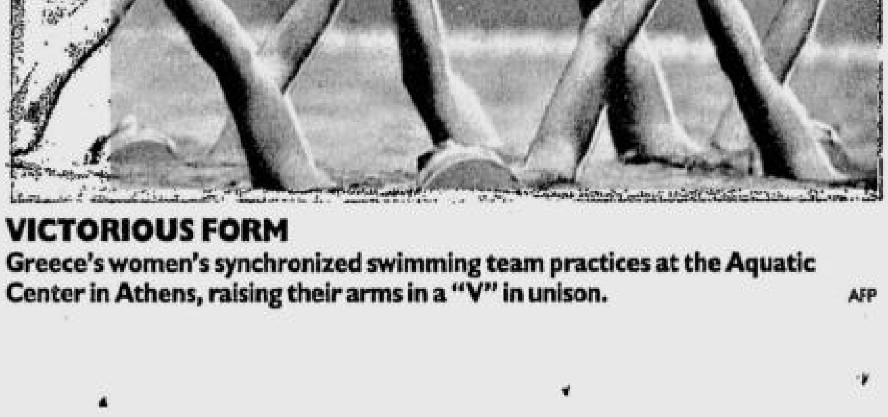
Bustamante is also scheduled to defend his crown in the $50,000 winner-take-all 14th annual International Challenge of Champions from Aug. 11-12 at the Mohegan Sun Casino, Uncasville, Connecticut.

The winner between Sambajon and Hundal will tackle American Mike Davis, who earlier defeated Gaetan Rivand, Allen Hopkins and Kevin Buckley.

Also in the winner-side brackets are defending champion Charlie "The Korean Dragon" Williams, Jeremy Jones and Charles Bryant of the United States, and 2001 World Pool Cardiff champion Mika Immonen of Finland.

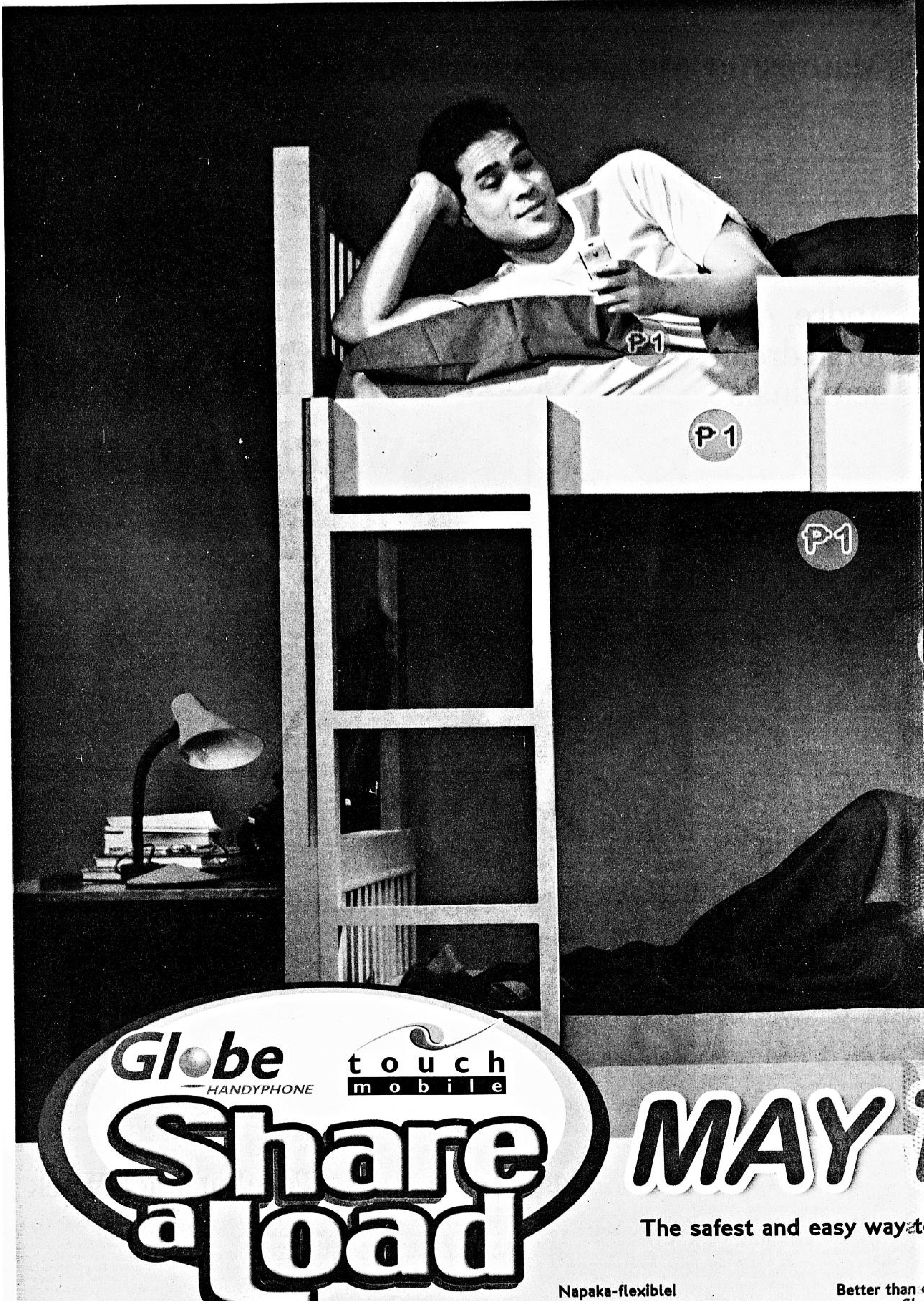
At stake is $55,000 total prize money.

Bustamante is gunning for a better finish than in this year's World Pool Championships won by Canada-based Filipino Alex Pagulayan. Bustamante was ousted by compatriot Marlon Manalo in the Round of 32. *Marlon Bernardino*



VICTORIOUS FORM

Greece's women's synchronized swimming team practices at the Aquatic Center in Athens, raising their arms in a "V" in unison. AFP



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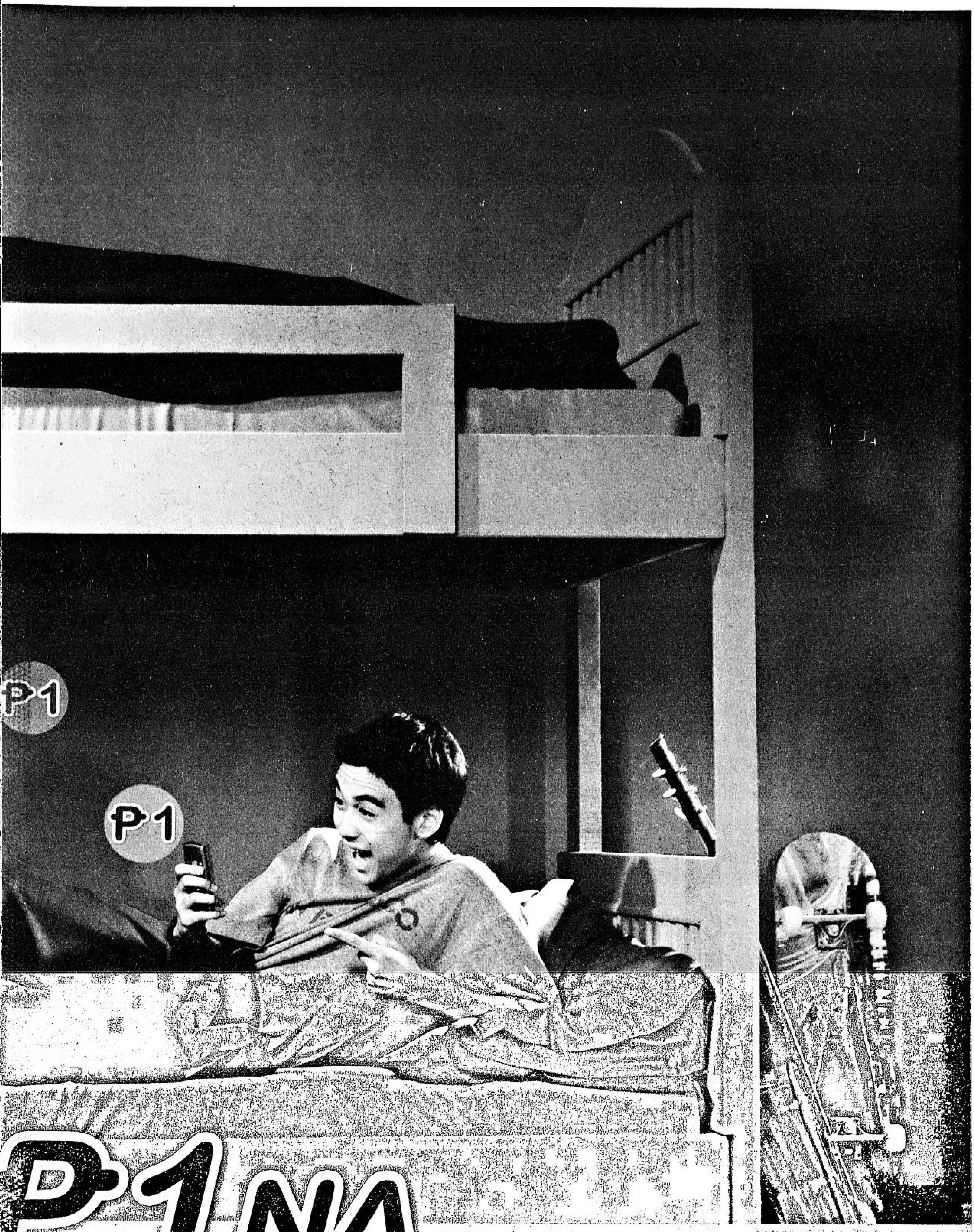

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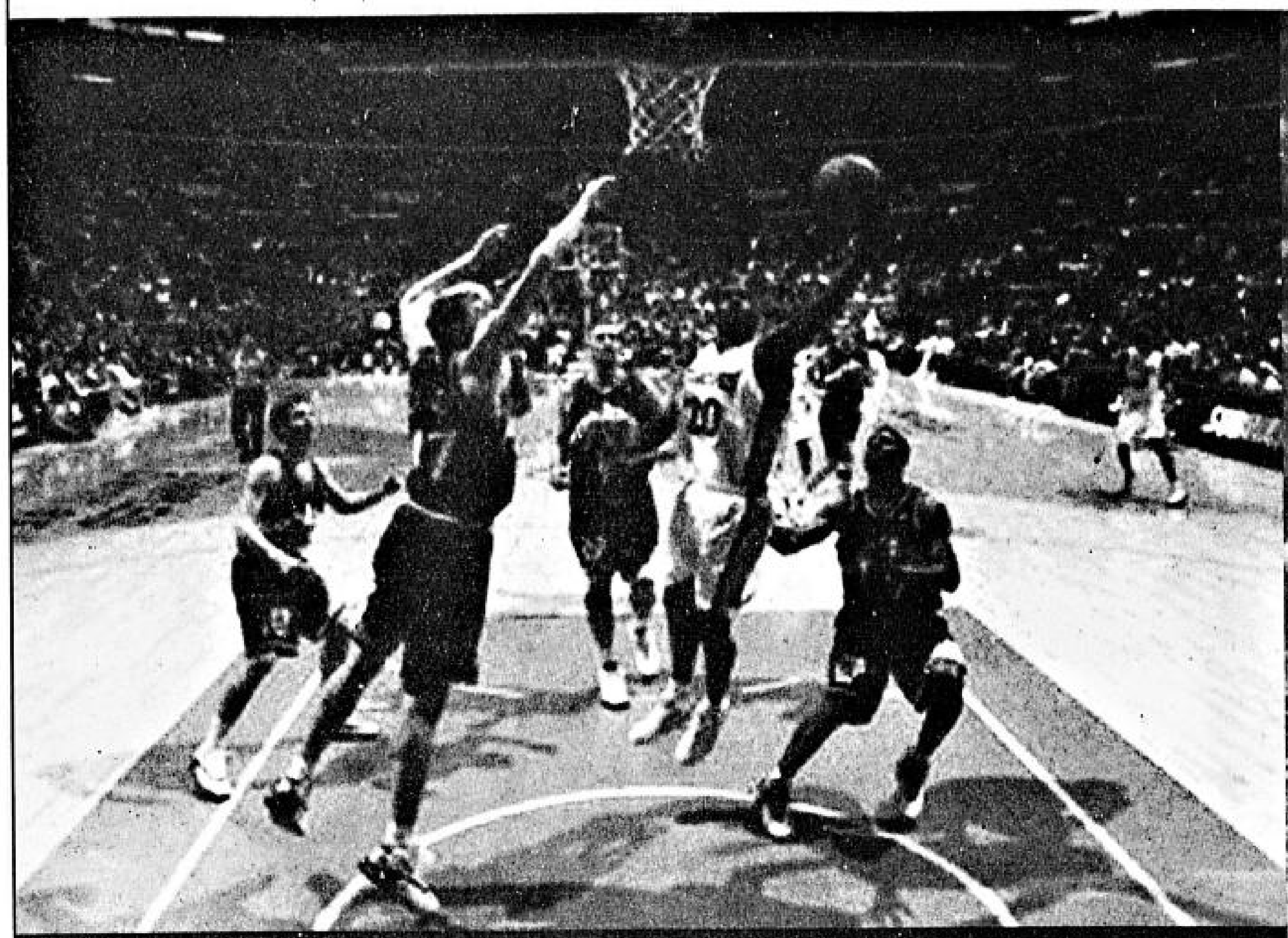

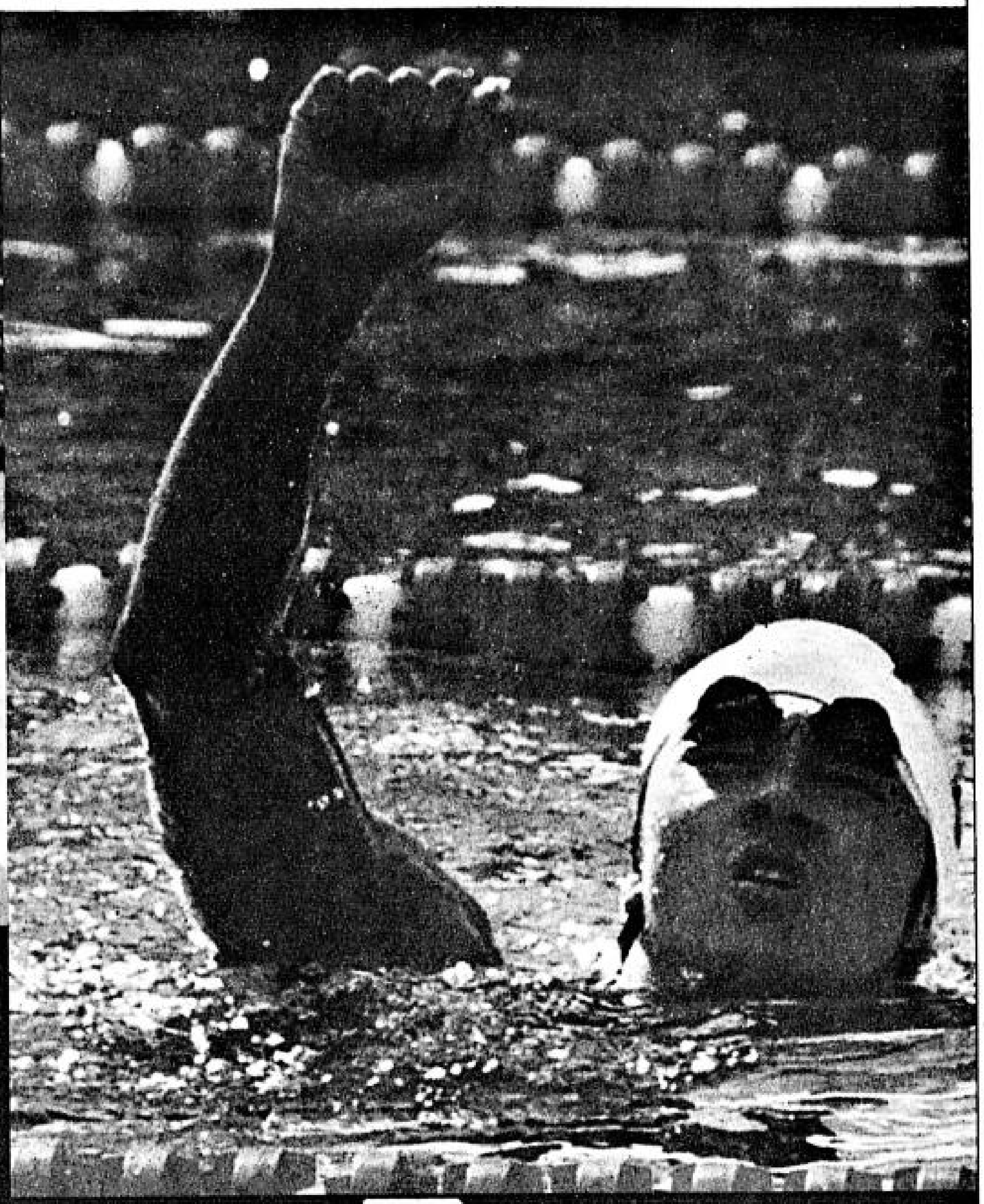

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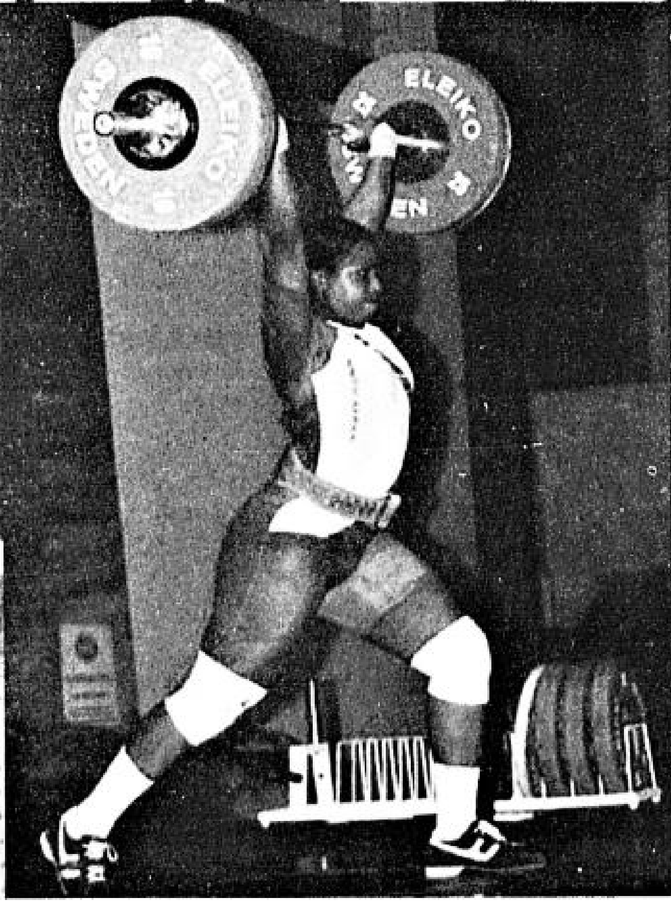

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Cutting Edge rules 1st WHIP Cup race

By Edwin Villanueva
Contributor

CUTTING Edge is at his razor-sharp form indeed.

The five-year-old chestnut galloper cut through the opposition with a solid run at the far turn and went on to win the inaugural WHIP (Writers of Horseracing in the Philippines) Cup race yesterday at the jampacked Santa Ana Park.

At the end of the 1,600-meter contest, the Putch Puyat-owned Cutting Edge was five lengths away from his nearest pursuer, San Diego Force.

The victory, fashioned out in front of a wildly cheering crowd, was the seventh straight for the Hazm-Leveret progeny who started his winning romp on May 28. It was the longest streak thus far this season, besting what Hellfire and Speed Mountain had earlier accomplished.

"Isinunod ko lang sa mga de-bandera at nang bitawan ko sa medya milya alam ko mananalo na (I just allowed him to follow the pacesetters and when I let him loose at the half-mile post, I knew we'd win)," said jockey Antonio Alcasid Jr., who took over the reins from Louie Balboa after Cutting Edge notched his fifth straight triumph last July 8.

Cutting Edge bagged P240,000 for Puyat, who said: "This is one victory I will always cherish because it came at the inaugural race of our friends from the WHIP."

Silver Rose finished third then came Diktador, Hellfire, Speed Machine and Winter's Fury.

The first WHIP Cup race, main event of the Philippine Racing Club's "Latigo Sabado" racing festival, was chiefly sponsored by the Philracom under chair Jaime Dilag in cooperation with the PRCI.

Aside from Dilag, also gracing the awarding rites were Philracom executive director Eddie Jose, commissioner Eduardo Domingo Jr., PRCI VP for finance Allan Abesamis and officials of the WHIP, the newly formed group of the members of the horseracing media.

"Sana huwag magbago ang magandang kundisyon (I hope he retains his good form),"said ace trainer Juan "Johnny" Sordan, adding Cutting Edge will be honed up for the coming major races.

The late-maturing Cutting Edge covered the distance in 1:41 flat (24.5-24-24.5-28).

Diktador, Winter's Fury and Silver Rose were locked in a tight battle for first when Cutting Edge blew past them. It was all over from there as the Puyat entry strode to the wire with gusto.

Hellfire, who was also seeking a seventh straight win, tried to rally from fourth spot but could not muster enough strength and faded out of contention at the top of the stretch.

Meanwhile, action at the popular Makati racetrack resumes today with the first leg of the Juvenile Colt and Fillies championships serving as the main attraction.

RACING TIPS

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Race 1--1. Pivotal 2. Queen's Gold 3. West in Wild 4. Motivation
Race 2--1. Close Account 2. Money Order 3. Miguel's Pet 4.Native Talent
Race 3--1. Storm Quest 2. Super Hero/Super Wind 3. Smashing Success 4.Smarty Jude 5. King Lance
Race 4--1. Blue Bolero 2. Headliner 3. Gold and Dollar 4. Big Mama
Race 5--1. Real Spicy 2. Speed Majesty
Race 6--1. Gold and Star 2. Real Charm/Colonial Affair 3. Ahead of Time 4. Sir Olizon 5. Sir Lawrence
Race 7--1. Gold Collar 2. Count Your Blessings 3. Exchange Deal 4. Princess Ann
Race 8--1. Jedi 2. Pyramid Relaunch 3. Lamborghini/One Vision 4. Rule and Reign
Race 9--1. Little Girl 2. Friendly Venture/Jay Nicole 3. Western Legend 4. Yokozuna/Burst of Speed 5. Regal Style
Race 10--1. Prickly Heat 2. Fly Aday Fly 3. Naughty 4. Sagittarius
Race 11--1. Luck of the Irish 2. Don Miguel 3. Popularity 4. Shining Lance 5. Red Rose
Race 12--1. Native Prince 2. Daldalera 3. Musikero 4. Tervalac
Race 14--1. Blue Iris 2. Chase the Wind/Kalashnikov 3. Patutina 4.Gleaming Heart 5. Detonator 6. Mam Pureza

Juvenile Stakes Series today

LOCAL racing's most promising gallopers take center stage today at the Santa Ana Park as they compete in two featured P1-million events marking the start of the 2004 Philracom "Juvenile Stakes Series" for 2-year-old colts and fillies.

The twinbill stakes offering caps Philippine Racing Club's weeklong racing schedule and headlines the club's 13-race Sunday program.

Set to compete in the first of two major 2-year-old races are nine fillies, recent winners of the Maiden and Group Divisions, who'll be disputing the 1st leg of the 2003 "Juvenile Stakes Series" over a distance of 1,450 meters.

Heading the field of challengers are the Esguerra Stable pair of Lamborghini and One Vision, Nicomedes Cruz's impressive maiden winner Rule and Reign, Albert Trinidad's back-to-back winner Beyond Reach, Felipa Cunanan's game campaigner Pyramid Relaunch, Rolly Tan's island-born contender Undisputed, Leonardo "Sandy" Javier's regally bred Jedi, Ma. Teresa "Baby" Trinidad's Spell Bound and JM Autoparts' recent group winner Queen Josephine.

The highest-rated entries in the field are Undisputed (by Gentleman) and Jedi (by Real Quiet), along with Pyramid Relaunch and Lamborghini.

Meanwhile, a compact field of three 2-year-old colts is set to do battle in the first leg of the Juvenile Colts Stakes Series over 1,450m.

Recent group winners Real Spicy from the Esguerra Stable and Bobby Yutadco's Speed majesty are expected to slug it out for top honors. The two colts ran against each other in a Pre-Juvenile Race last July 11 at the Santa Ana Park, with Speed Majesty handily winning the race in wire-to-wire fashion in 1:36.6 over 1,450m.

Real Spicy rebounded in his next outing, dominating four other promising 2-year-olds, including Jun Almeda's Golden Fantasy, in the Santa Ana Park Juvenile Race last July 25 and clocking a fast 1:30.4 over 1,450m.

Enough is enough

SPECTATOR

Al S. Mendoza

IT began as a mission to regain a title and get him out of debt. It now appears he is headed for retirement.

Mike Tyson, as fearsome as Satan even without the horns at the prime of his career, seems headed for pastureland after absorbing a defeat last week that was as shameful as George W. Bush's bogey that Iraq had weapons of mass destruction when the truth was, there was none.

Tyson got knocked out in the fourth round by a certain Danny Williams, a 31-year-old journeyman who was supposed to lose to make Tyson saleable again. The truth was, Williams had suddenly made himself the more saleable of the two after the fight.

If there was any lesson at all to be learned from this fight, it is that boxing seems to have gotten some semblance of sanctity here. No hanky-panky, if you know what I mean. For, ordinarily, as in Mafiosi style, the usual ending would be Tyson knocking Williams out so savagely the fight would be over in 10 seconds flat.

That way, it would appear that Tyson is ready for the big time again.

That way, it would appear that the public is ready to accept Tyson fight the big fights again.

That way, it would appear that Tyson is not just a recycled boxer, but rather, one who has recaptured his old sting.

Of all sports, boxing has the most gullible crowd.

Parade a former great trumpeted as having recovered his old, deadly punch and the ring he would be in could quickly transform into a magnet.

Tyson, even at 38, fits the perfect bait: His meanness has always been a tested come-on, his streak of madness talisman for life.

Because by nature, man loves gore, Tyson feeds on that. His name is like Elvis Presley if this were rock 'n' roll; it never dies. Always, he was the surefire formula for a boxing Woodstock to succeed.

Alas, on this night, Tyson would go down embarrassingly like the much-ballyhooed Titanic.

He fought overweight, didn't have the hand speed that used to quickly flatten even the top fighters nearly 20 years ago. He was an aging boxer this night, mercifully looking for a quick knockout that never came, and never will come-again.

"I'm not going to lie to him," said Freddie Roach, Tyson's trainer for years. "I'm going to tell him the truth—that retirement is definitely a possibility."

Roach, in case you have forgotten, is the trainer of our very own Manny Pacquiao. Since Roach started training Pacquiao, the Filipino southpaw has yet to taste defeat.

"I'm not sure where we are going to go from here," said Roach. "He's 38 years old. We are going to sit down and have a real serious conversation about his future...what direction Mike wants to go. I care about Mike and I don't want to see him get hurt."

Tyson got hurt badly this night. Bloodied and virtually spent after he got knocked out, Tyson appeared too heavy as a stalled 10-wheeler truck while down on the canvas. It became crystal-clear he had no more to give. And yet, this was the same man who, at barely 20 years old, captured the world heavyweight crown with vicious fists and a power so enormous he could have knocked down the Great Wall of China had he tried to during his dreaded reign. Such was his power that Rocky Marciano was suddenly considered sissy. George Foreman? A marshmallow pie.

But if it's any consolation, after this defeat, Tyson would be a good stud if he were a horse lined up for siring duties. His was a record that would be the envy of those who know pedigree when they see one.

Before the fight, a friend of mine sent me this text message: "*Pare*, I'm still for Tyson. Just for fun, a bottle of Torres?"

He's a dear buddy. I can't bear to see him lose. I ignored his text message.

Not to brag but I had honestly felt Tyson would lose. One who fights to pay debts is a goner. A good fighter fights to win. That was the tragedy of Tyson: he fought again hoping to pull himself out of a massive debt. To me, that is the best formula for failure.

Tyson had filed for bankruptcy in 2003 after losing nearly 300 million dollars in boxing purses and endorsements. The fight with Williams netted him 8 million dollars, but most of it will go to his creditors.

Earlier, Tyson had agreed to settle a 100-million dollar lawsuit with promoter Don King. In the package was a seven-fight plan to pay off Tyson's debt; the Williams fight was the first.

It could yet be the last for Tyson.

Before the Williams fight, Bob Arum, another big-time promoter in the league of Don King, had also planned a three-fight deal worth 80 million dollars for Tyson. Definitely, that, too, will have to go down the drain.

How to save Tyson from getting lynched by his creditors?

A new film about his life could do the trick. However, to ensure its blockbuster appeal, the script must touch heavily on his being a convicted rapist but not to water down though his being a cannibal. Remember his having chewed Holyfield's ear in 1997?

It would be so nice a movie the Hannibal series of Anthony Hopkins would be reduced to a B flick.

But honestly now, will you still watch Tyson fight if he's dangled to us again?

I know the answer. But don't you dare say it.

I might believe you.

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2 CATWOMAN	2 CATWOMAN	2 CATWOMAN	6 GARFIELD	2 COLLATERAL 11:55, 2:30, 5:05, 7:40, 10:15	GUARANTEED SEATS 2 COLLATERAL 12:20, 2:55, 5:30, 8:05, 10:40	2 PRINCE & ME
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4 I, ROBOT	4 GARFIELD	4 ETERNAL SUNSHINE			GUARANTEED SEATS 4 ETERNAL SUNSHINE 1:50, 4:15, 6:40, 9:05, 11:30	4 CATWOMAN
5 GARFIELD					GUARANTEED SEATS 5 COLLATERAL 1:10, 3:45, 6:20, 8:55, 11:30	5 COLLATERAL

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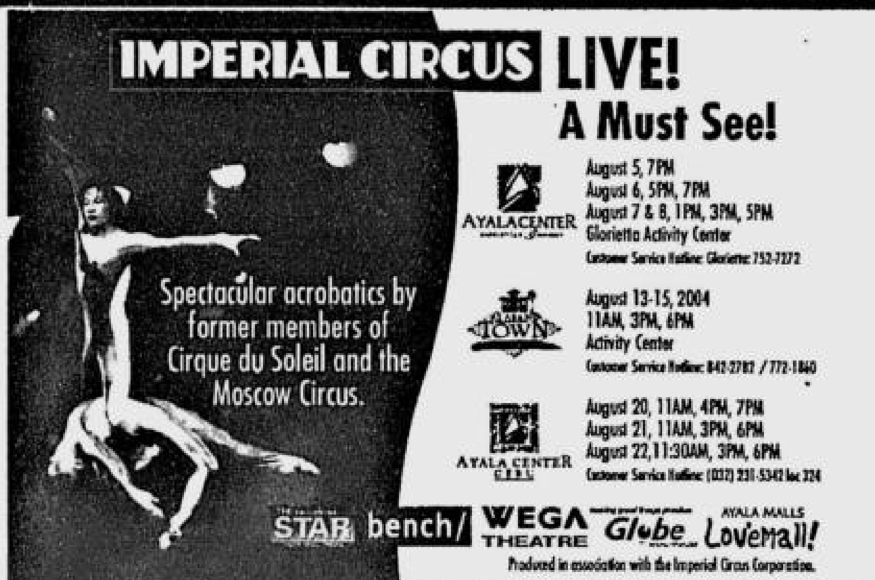
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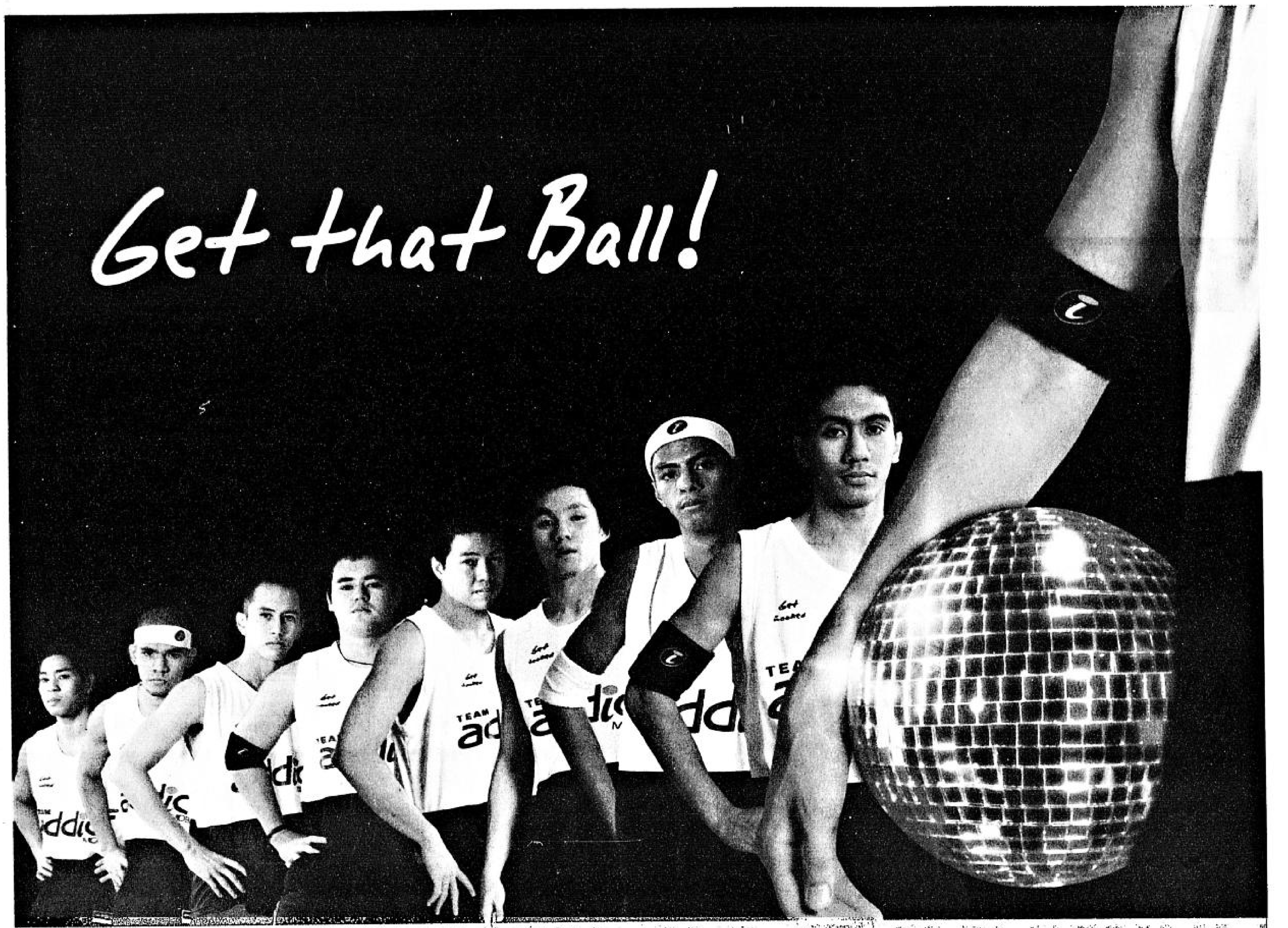
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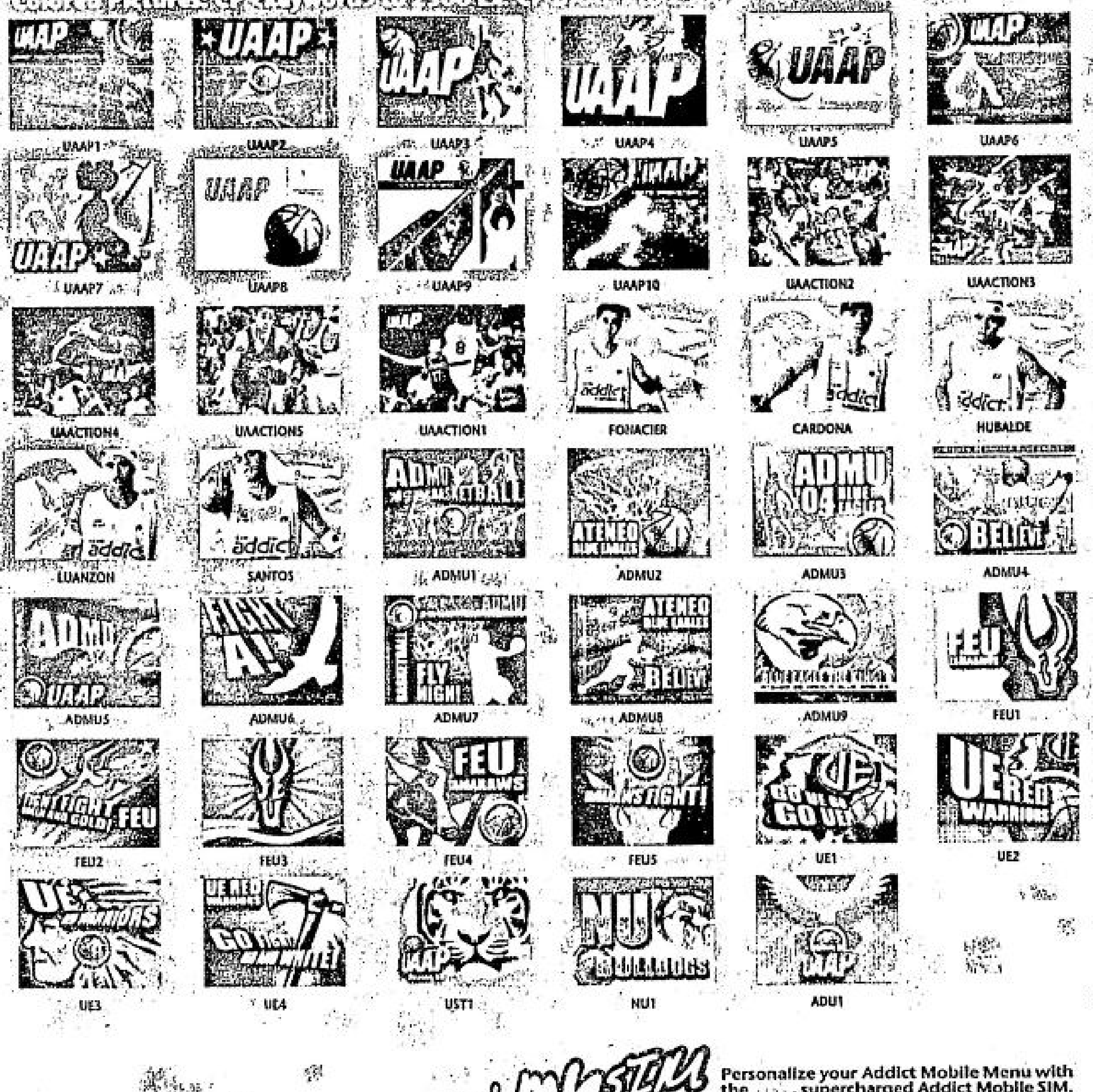
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Sunday BIZ

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Business Features Editor **Margie Quimpo-Espino**

'James' of all trades, master of all

By Amy R. Remo

TO SIMPLY call James Puyat-Concepcion a jack of all trades would not do justice to a man whose diverse interests range from IT to cooking.

At 35, Concepcion heads several companies in various sectors—Days Hotel Philippines, a hotel chain; Sunette Tower Hotel; Hertz Exclusive Cars, a car rental firm; Infiniant Financial Holdings, a marketing concern; an e-commerce firm; a preschool; Stopover Worldwide Media, a publishing house; Vacation Club International; and logistic and franchising.

During the past year, he was able to turn these companies around.

On call 24/7 wherever in the world he may be, Concepcion says his entrepreneurial spirit was instilled in him and his siblings by his parents during his college days.

Concepcion is the son of the late Reynaldo "Rene" Concepcion—brother of twins Jose (former trade and industry secretary) and Raul—and Jesusa Puyat, daughter of the late Sen. Gil Puyat and president of Loyola Plans Consolidated Inc.

Despite his lineage, Concepcion says they didn't have it easy when it came to money.

"Back in college, our parents would give us money enough for our essentials, to be like everyone else," says Concepcion. "So I used to do everything under the sun—as a photographer, tutor, fitness trainer to supplement my P120/week allowance."

A graduate of BS Business Economics at the University of the Philippines in Diliman, Concepcion had worked for multinationals in and outside the country, before joining his father in running the family businesses.

He came back from Canada in 1992 and managed Sunette Condominium, which he later turned into the country's first condotel. Sunette started offering rooms on a daily rate aside from the standard weekly and monthly rates.

"That was my first exposure to the hospitality industry," says Concepcion.

In 1999, Concepcion left again for the US, where he obtained his master's degree in Management at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Boston.

Two and a half years later, Concepcion came back to manage the Arcon Franchise Group, with his late father, Rene.

JAMES' idea of pursuing a hobby is to turn it into a profitable venture.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP is in Concepcion's blood.

The Arcon Franchise Group is the umbrella organization of Days Hotel, master franchisor of Medicine Shoppe, Pizza Inn, Hertz and Century 21, among others.

Despite being the third in a brood of four and youngest among the three boys, Concepcion has the biggest responsibilities in most of the companies owned by the family.

"In terms of leadership, we're different from other families because it is not based on age but on qualifications," says Concepcion.

Concepcion, however, adds that they have equal holdings in the companies of their parents, except for those he had started, of which he owns majority.

"My siblings are very good (businessmen) in their own right—they have a lot of things I don't have. But personality and experience-wise, I've had the more varied experience," says Concepcion.

Concepcion relates that he and his late father would look around the US for franchises they could bring back to the Philippines.

"Franchising is easier because it's quick education. It comes with a brand name that's easier to push," says Concepcion. "Most of all, it has international linkages, which in this quickly globalizing world, is very important."

Among those they had brought in the country and became successful is the Days Inns of America, which became the Days Hotel Philippines.

After 10 years in the Philippines, Days has five hotels located in Mactan, Cebu, Iloilo, Tagaytay City, Batangas City and Subic.

Joint ventures

"Before, we used to build completely new hotels. But what we're doing now is we're entering into joint ventures with existing hotel owners, whose hotels are not doing well anymore," says Concepcion.

This Days Hotel concept, according to him, is unique because they lease old hotels with banks and owners.

"We're helping people, whose hotels are going to be foreclosed," says Concepcion.

Concepcion says they lease the property, renovate and then manage it for either the banks or hotel owners, who will get a certain percentage from the gross sales.

"I don't own anything. It's a lease of the property, a management contract because it'll be more complicated if we buy the property," says Concepcion.

Concepcion adds that some of the hotel owners are reluctant to sell because they feel attached to their property.

According to Concepcion, the cost of renovating the property depends on the size of the hotel, its condition or how many rooms it has. Renovating a hotel with about 120 rooms usually costs P15 million to P20 million.

"We run Days Hotel like a family corporation, very tight and we work quickly," says Concepcion.

It has an internal school for its staff, meant to educate them on what Days Hotel has learned about the hotel culture after 10 years in the country.

The Days Hotel style of management is also unique as it fuses the best of western technology and innovation with the finest in eastern hospitality and charm.

In 1997, Days Hotel in Batangas City won the International Hotel of the Year award for the whole Days Inn system of over 2,000 hotels.

Such an atmosphere would be suited for Filipino domestic travelers, which is its target market.

It is their way, according to Concepcion, to help build a sense of nationalism among Filipinos by encouraging them to travel around the country.

Days Hotel also provides appetizing meals through its Oh! restaurant. Concepcion chose the dishes himself.

JAMES/ B2

"We are all responsible in the progress of our country. We each have a contribution to make. Let us not give-up in our efforts to achieve the nation we envision."

— *Doyee Tactacan-Tumpalan*
President and CEO,
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Regional Centennial Celebration
"Sa Sandaang Taong Sikad
BIR Kaagapay sa Pag-unlad"

The Bureau of Internal Revenue, Region No.7 held their Regional Centennial Celebration last July 27, 2004 at RR7 Quadrangle, Quezon City. Standing from left: Nestor S. Valero, Regional Director, DTT; Doyee T. Tumpalan, President and CEO First Quadrant Philippines Inc., Hon. Guillermo L. Parayno, Jr., Commissioner of Internal Revenue; and Dr. Marina C. De Guzman, Assistant Regional Director.

First Quadrant

Everywhere making a difference in the lives of many.

A tale of a mining family in the north

By Frank Cimatu
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

(From left) **ERNESTO Jr., Edda, Augusto Villaluna**

PHOTOS BY EV ESPIRITU

ERNESTO Villaluna Sr.

BAGUIO CITY—The American Chamber of Commerce estimates that the Philippines is sitting on some P840 billion worth of mineral wealth.

The mining industry, if properly tapped, could provide an additional P4 billion to P5 billion a year in export revenues, at least P2 billion in new private sector investments, thousands of new jobs, economic development in the countryside, and P10 billion to P30 billion in tax revenues for the government.

All of these could translate to an additional 2 percentage points of GDP growth.

But the industry still faces great challenges ahead to recover its place as one of the top three foreign exchange earners in the country.

When one speaks of Philippine mining, three major companies, all located in Benguet, inevitably come to the fore.

These are the Benguet Corp., which pioneered modern mining in 1903 and was considered for decades as the fourth biggest in Southeast Asia; Lepanto Consolidated Mining Co., which started in 1936; and Philex Mining Corp., in 1958, all of which continue to be industry players today.

At the helm of Lepanto and Philex are two sons of a well-respected mining engineer, who spent 40 years of his life in mining, the last 25 of which were with Benguet Corp.

A daughter is also involved with Benguet Corp. in a new field of mining tourism.

This is the story of the Villalunas of mining.

Villaluna patriarch

Their father, Ernesto Villaluna Sr., or Ernie, took up architecture at the Mapua Institute of Technology. In his third year, he shifted to mining engineering as he learned that mining engineers earned more than architects.

He was doing his mining practicum at United Paracale Mines in Camarines Norte in 1939 when he met Aida Carranceja, a daughter of the mayor of nearby Daet, at a town fiesta. It was love at first sight and the couple eloped and got married 10 days after their first meeting.

Ernie finished mining engineering in 1940 and re-joined United Paracale as a safety engineer.

The eldest Villaluna child, Jose Ernesto or Ernie Jr., was born in Daet, and the second child Eloisa in Paracale.

When World War II broke out in December 1941, the mine closed down and Ernie joined the famed guerrilla unit of patriot Wenceslao Vinzons.

In 1942, the Villaluna couple with two toddlers in tow had to escape from Bicol to Negros Occidental in a fearful journey that took three months.

Aida used to relate how they managed in a batel (native flat sailboat), hiding during the day in coves and sailing only at night to avoid the Japanese patrol ships.

Their children Ramona Edda, Emmanuel (who died in infancy), Leticia, Augusto and Aida were born in Negros; Fernando in Surigao; and Lorenzo in Manila.

Eloisa, the second child, died in 1988.

Ernie returned to mining in 1950 when he joined the Surigao Consolidated Mining Co. (Suricon) as safety engineer and mine shift boss.

It was the children's first experience of a mining camp, where they would live for the next four years. It seemed like a well-ordered life, where the company provided free housing and utilities to its employees.

Ernie Jr. remembered their father's constant reminder "to be humble and be considerate of others." The siblings related how they would hide their leather shoes and instead walk barefoot or with wooden clogs to look like the miners' children going to school.

In 1955, Ernie joined Benguet Consolidated Mining Co., later known as Benguet Corp., which was then the biggest gold mine in the country.

He started as a mine foreman, worked up the ladder until his death in 1980.

In 1976, during the so-called "corporate Filipinization of the mines," Ernie became the first Filipino vice president and general manager of the Baguio district of the previously American-owned Benguet Corp.

"When papa died in December 1980, there were so many people from the mining communities who attended his funeral. He was much loved by his miners and co-workers," Augusto says.

Benguet Corp. honored him by naming a newly constructed building in Balatoc as the Villaluna Center, which exists to this day.

Siblings

Taking after his father, Ernie Jr. is seen by his siblings as hard-working, responsible, thoughtful and caring.

"Early on, he has always been looking after us and in turn we look up to him with respect and admiration. Being the eldest, he was given big responsibilities at a young age and was my mother's right hand," says Edda.

Ernie Jr. initially took up metallurgical engineering and later shifted to mining engineering at the University of the Philippines where he graduated in 1962.

He worked in five mining companies located all over the country in various capacities, utilizing various mining methods and practices.

Starting as a test engineer at Marinduque Mining's Bagacay Mines, he moved to sales engineering for eight years. He went back to mine operations in 1972 as assistant resident manager of Western Minolco, where they started a new mine from bare ground to preparation of the open-pit, construction and installation of the copper mill.

He started the gold operation of Apex Mining Co. in Davao del Norte where he rose to executive vice president within 13 years.

Ernie Jr. re-opened Suricon's gold mining operation with a new mill and initiated open-pit operation. He was Suricon's executive vice president for five years.

In 1993, he was president and later vice chair of Itogon Suyoc Mines until his retirement in 2001. He was director of the Chamber of Mines of the Philippines for 13 years.

Roused from retirement, he is now the executive vice president and chief operating officer of Philex Mining Corp. The appointment took effect on Aug. 1.

Ernie Jr. is married to Lolita Cajator-Villaluna. The couple has three children and three grandsons.

To Ernie Jr., it is fulfilling in the career of a mining professional to participate in opening up new mines that generate employment in the provinces and foreign exchange for the country.

His sister Edda finished BS Commerce, major in accounting, at St. Theresa's College in 1963. In the same year, she married Jose Henson and is a proud mother of five and grandmother to seven.

Edda's tourism career spans 30 years with executive positions in the Department of Tourism, the World Tourism Organization, a United Nations specialized agency based in Madrid, Spain; and as Intramuros administrator.

A significant achievement was her recognition by the WTO for her role in the 1980 Manila Declaration on World Tourism.

She moved to the private tourism sector as managing director of Asia Pacific Projects Inc., a major tourism consultancy company, where she was involved in tourism planning, development and marketing.

Edda was working as Philippine financial consultant to a Colorado-based mining company when Benguet Corp. contracted her consulting services in 1999.

At that time, Benguet Corp. had converted its Balatoc Mines in Itogon, Benguet, into a tourist attraction, popularly known as "the first and only mining attraction in the Philippines."

Tourist attraction

The tourist attraction has since been packaged as the Benguet Mines Tourism Village, with an underground mine tour in a rehabilitated Vegas tunnel, nature activities in a former forest reserve, a tailings pond converted into a man-made lake and the Villaluna Center Complex for accommodation and conferences.

VILLALUNA'S formal family portrait: Agusto, Eloisa, Ernesto Sr., Aida Sr., Ernesto Jr., Fernando (standing from left); Aida Jr., Edda, Leticia (seated); Augusto(front)

"My stint with Benguet Corp. hinges on my sentimental affinity to the mines where I grew up and my involvement in mining tourism as a pioneering tourism product in the country. My vision is to assist the industry in developing and promoting mining heritage tourism, similar to what has been created in mining areas in the United States, Canada, and Australia," says Edda.

The third Villaluna player in the mining industry is Augusto or Gus.

Among his brothers and sisters, Gus resembles his father most—good sense of humor, booming voice, family man and great empathy with his miners.

He is a hands-on executive with a keen sensitivity to underground mine operations.

"When I was young in Siana, I remember waiting in ambush for my father on his way home from work. He would put his mining hard hat with a lamp on me and carry me on his shoulders. This must have rubbed off me," Gus recalls. Like his father, Gus finished mining engineering in Mapua in 1973.

He worked his way up from a miner to executive positions in several mining companies. He started as metallurgical laboratory aide at Inco Mining Corp. and mining engineer-trainee in Benguet Corp.'s Acupan mines as well as Philex.

At the Baguio Gold's Sto. Niño Mines, he rose from mine shift engineer to mine superintendent for both underground and open pit operations.

In 1981, he joined Lepanto as senior mining engineer and rose to senior vice president and resident manager in the company's flagship operation in Mankayan, Benguet, and senior vice president of Manila Mining Corp.

His mining experience has been marked with his ability for crisis management and rehabilitation of mining businesses to profitability.

He retired from Lepanto in 2000 and was recalled in 2003 to assume the same position. He was also elected as member of the board of directors of the Manila Mining Corp.

"If I thought only of myself, I would not have come back. I felt I could still help the miners and their families. Helping others is my father's legacy to us," Gus tells the INQUIRER.

In Lepanto, his wife, Thelma Bondoc, has initiated several community projects in the areas of cultural upliftment, assistance to children with physical disabilities and vocational training.

Every Christmas, special events are held for all the miners' children. Gus, Thelma and their four children love the Mankayan and nearby communities.

Asked about the mother lode to success, the Villaluna siblings invariably recalled their parents' reminder to strive for excellence in everything they do.

All are multi-awarded professionals in their field. Ernie Jr. and Gus were also recognized as outstanding alumni of their respective mining schools.

The siblings also believe in the power of prayer.

"We prayed the Rosary every night with a straight back, and if one of us leaned on the bed, we would have to repeat the five decades," they say.

In addition to these, their father inculcated in them the values of hard work, perseverance, integrity and compassion.

At night, Ernie had all his children evaluate their day and ask what good thing each had done to his neighbor.

A father's love

"A father's love knows no bounds," Ernie Jr. says.

He knows of what he was saying.

In October 1980, their parents embarked on a round-the-world trip as Benguet Corp.'s reward for Ernie's exemplary performance before his 65th birthday and retirement in February 1981.

On their last stopover before their return to Manila, Ernie suffered a heart attack in Singapore, which led to his death on Dec. 5, 1980.

In the meantime, Ernie Jr. and other senior executives of Apex Mines were supposed to visit the mines in Davao del Norte and Surigao. After several postponements, Dec. 3 was the date set for the trip.

Because of his father's critical condition, Ernie Jr. decided not to join the Apex Mines trip and flew to Singapore instead.

On that day, the plane with the Apex Mines executives crashed in Mt. Makiling in Laguna and there were no survivors.

"My father gave his life that I may be saved," says Ernie Jr.

Ernie must be very happy today to see that his mining legacy not only lives on but has come full circle: two of his sons, Ernie Jr. and Augusto, have followed his footsteps as senior executives of the two biggest operating mines in the country today, Philex and Lepanto, and a daughter, Edda, is involved in mining tourism, in his beloved Benguet Corp.

'James' . . .

From page B1

Among Oh!'s specialties are Korean breakfast, *nilagang baka, kilawin* and special iced desserts.

Concepcion is especially proud of his chocnut fondue, which he claims to be the first of its kind in the country.

Chocnut, according to Concepcion, does not melt since it doesn't contain fat or oil.

"But we have found a way to melt it. It's my secret recipe. We serve it with bread and fruits. It's to die for!" gushes Concepcion.

Concepcion aims to put up more Days Hotels in Boracay, Southern Tagalog, Baguio and Mindanao by next year.

Despite his many involvements, Concepcion tries to spend time with his wife, Ingrid Lopez Vito and three kids. Otherwise, he would chill out with a game of golf or basketball.

Concepcion's idea of pursuing a hobby is opening a business catering to that pastime. His passion for cooking and fine cuisine gave birth to Ziggurat, a restaurant which serves Mediterranean, African, MidEast and Indian food.

For his interest in writing and photography he set up StopOver, a lifestyle-travel magazine, recognized as the Best Travel Magazine by several consumer choice awards.

He also recently opened a preschool called Tutor Time, which is a franchise of a US school.

"These other businesses keep my stress down, when I'm busy on the job or on a business trip," Concepcion tells the INQUIRER.

Two entrepreneurs dip hands into a bowl

BEN Loo

SHERYL Genuino

TODAY'S business scene is taking on a younger look. Many companies are now being run by entrepreneurs who, 10 or 20 years ago, would be considered too young to get involved in the adult world of trade and commerce.

These "youngbloods" share the same passion, creativity and business acumen that their predecessors have, some of whom are their own parents or grandparents. But these young entrepreneurs are fortunate in more ways than one. They have acquired the best education locally or abroad, they have ongoing family concerns as business models and have access to the latest technology.

The traits of these young and driven entrepreneurs fit the profile of the new franchisees of Super Bowl of China—25-year-old Sheryl F. Genuino and 35-year-old Benjamin "Ben" Loo. Sheryl, through the family-owned Neocuisines Inc. where she is managing director, acquired the Super Bowl of China franchise in Eastwood Citywalk 2 in Libis. Ben's Concept Bowl Foods Inc., meanwhile, owns the Super Bowl franchise in SM Fairview which is also set to open this month.

Both Sheryl and Ben come from business-minded families. Sheryl's family is engaged in information communications technology, retailing, pest control and food service. Ben comes from a family engaged in various businesses. He had previously worked as a professional but preferred to build his own business and is now engaged in food, IT and computers and cooling systems.

A graduate of Integrated Marketing Communication at the University of Asia and the Pacific, Sheryl's sweet persona does not match the tough businesswoman stereotype. But her credentials and experience prove otherwise. She manages the 2-story Super Bowl branch in Eastwood together with friend and former schoolmate, Janelle Katipunan who is the store's general manager.

Ben was a graduate of Corporate Finance and Management at the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania. His Super Bowl branch in SM Fairview occupies 195 square meters and can seat 110 guests. Being a Chinese himself, this particular venture is close to his heart, not to mention his palate.

They may be young, but Sheryl and Ben are smart investors. They thoroughly study a business concept first to assess its feasibility before considering a venture. Both also take into consideration the profile of the people whom they work with.

"When Super Bowl started opening for franchise, we saw it as a good opportunity because they offer a time-proven formula—the combination of excellent food and service," shares Sheryl. "Another good thing about it is it has a wide market base. If we can get just one percent of the foot traffic in SM Fairview, then we'll be very happy," explains Ben. He enjoys a good business relationship with Richmond Yang, both having similar wavelength on market perception.

Richmond Yang is the managing director of Big Buddha Restaurant Inc. (BBRI), the parent company of Super Bowl of China. "I saw in Ben and Sheryl the entrepreneurial spirit and the determination to succeed," Yang stresses.

Veering away from the distant business demeanor of the olden days, Sheryl and Ben strive to make a difference in the lives of others. "We want to develop people's skills. If we grow, we also want them to grow with us," says Ben.

Living up to the expectations of BBRI as well as patrons of Super Bowl of China is one of the many challenges facing the young franchisees.

"We have to perform and deliver not only in terms of sales but also to maintain the image that made Super Bowl popular," Janelle explains. For Ben, maintaining the service thrust of the restaurant is an everyday challenge. "At the end of the day, the construction plan can be copied, the food can be copied, but the quality of service cannot be copied because it emanates from within the organization."

These young franchisees share their tips on what it takes to be a good entrepreneur. "Practice patience," shares Ben. "Get involved. Entrepreneurship requires 100 percent involvement. And keep that passion burning," is Sheryl's advise.

(For franchising inquiries call 7472125.)

'If I had three hours to spare before my flight…'

By Sandra Garcia
Contributor

FREQUENT travelers are constantly on the go. They're either rushing to their next meeting or catching their next plane. There's never enough time. What happens if they suddenly have three hours between their last meeting and a flight?

"Where ever that destination might be—if I had three hours to spare (what a luxury!!!!) before having to depart for the airport, an hour in a spa for a great, stress-releasing massage would be a dream! But the reality is—there is no such thing."—*Peggy Angeles, vice president, sales and marketing, Shangri-La Hotels & Resorts*

"I am probably too practical. In all likelihood, I would be in my office to attend to last minute things until I would have to leave for the airport. Now if I were on my return home from New York, I would likely catch the Holy Mass at St. Patrick's then stop for some Krispy Kremes before running off to the airport."—*Celia Elumba, general manager, Igedo Fashions (Liz Claiborne, Boss Hugo Boss)*

"If I were in Hong Kong, I would first check my bags in the ultra efficient Airport Express at the Hong Kong side so that I can free myself of luggage and confirm my seat. Then I would spend the time walking around the new IFC building in HK beside Airport Express. There are numerous shops opening (Zara being one of my favorite for men's clothes) and there are restaurants/bars with an open area facing HK harbor (which is very unique in HK). Since the flights to Manila are usually in the evening, I'd use the time to eat a healthy dinner within this huge complex, have a couple of drinks, then leisurely take the 25-minute train ride to HK airport and get there 30 minutes before boarding time. If there is enough time, Starbucks at the lower level of the airport is a great way to end a business trip to HK!"—*Claro "Ito" Feliciano, managing director, Bates Licensing*

"If I were in Singapore or Hong Kong where airports have wonderful bookstores and shops and also a distance drive away, I would spend the three hours in the airport and browse through the bookstores (first) then shops. I don't like being stressed up for my flight and prefer to be in airports generally early. If I were in a destination that does not have these facilities, then I will have a 30 to 45-minute workout in the hotel gym before heading off to the airport!"—*Alu Suarez, director of marketing, Mandarin Oriental*

"Being a type A personality, I'm actually edgy three hours prior to reaching the airport. Checking the traffic, calculating travel time and all. But if time permits, I'd go to a bookshop, a curio store, and go souvenir hunting. At the airport, if I'm lucky, I'd get a massage! That would be a treat. I remember sometime ago, while in between flight connections in Hong Kong, I saw a reflexology booth. I eagerly calculated the time it would take the clinician to complete a service, although it was cutting it close to my connecting flight, I went on with the service anyway."—*Esther Misa-Chavez, US representative, INQ.7*

"My best place to spend those precious three hours in is Singapore.

I just work my way from Takashimaya in Orchard and move upwards and usually end up in Borders where I can lose myself for one to two hours in their books. I find Taka the best place to find out what's new and what's latest in fashion and accessories."—*Jourdan Polotan, business owner*

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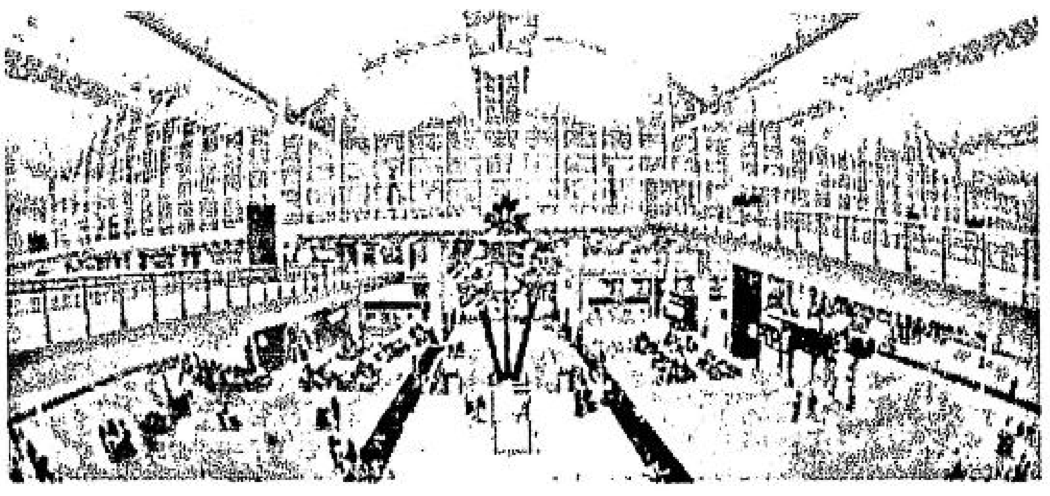

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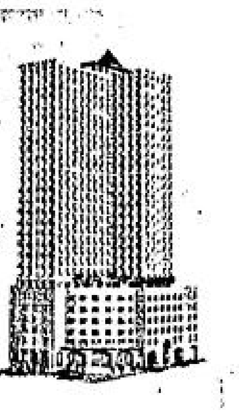

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Search on for local Lumen

By Desiree Caluza
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

THE LUMEN ad inspired a following to rival that of a telenovela

BAGUIO CITY—Remember Lumen, the "Wais na Misis" (wise wife and mother), in the Surf detergent soap commercial?

If people from Northern and Central Luzon do not, then Unilever Philippines, manufacturer of the Surf detergent, wants to remind them by launching a search for "Dakilang Wais na Misis."

As many as 45 mothers from Northern and Central Luzon joined the search and four, who epitomize the values of Lumen's character, have been chosen as finalists.

Inspired by the phenomenal success of Lumen, local distributors came up with the contest to increase the sales of Surf in the provinces, according to Andrew Caisido, area activation executive for Northern and Central Luzon of Unilever Philippines.

Unilever has enjoyed brisk sales of Surf since Lumen, who is projected as the caring mother who prefers cheaper yet quality products over expensive ones, appeared in a series of commercials on television, Caisido said.

"We are the brand leader for detergent soap. The sales have been rising since the Lumen commercial," he said.

Paul Michael Loiz, area activation executive for Northern and Central Luzon, said Surf has been consistent in targeting housewives as its market and in answering its consumer needs.

Taking from consumer insights, Loiz said there are wives and mothers who want to be recognized.

> Local distributors came up with the contest to increase the sales of Surf in the provinces

"The purpose of this search is not merely to sell the product. This is about women who inspire other people so that other people will be inspired by their life. These are the women who are wise in their own way and who display an exemplary character," Loiz said.

The project aims to single out mothers who are committed to uplift the lives of their family and the community.

These women are not just good wives and mothers but are generous members of society, Loiz said.

"In line with the value proposition of Surf (*Wais na panglinis 'sing galing ngunit di 'sing mahal*) the brand shall be felt by millions of consumers in Northern and Central Luzon through the Search for Dakilang Wais na Misis," he said.

"The brand values should be embodied in her community contribution, that in her own simple ways she was able to influence and contribute to the improvement of the lives of her peers in the community and her family," the project briefing said.

Loiz said: "This activity would hopefully also become a greater tool to influence other wives to be *wais* in their own lives. They have to realize that they need not be somebody highly influential and powerful just to be of service to other people."

He said these outstanding women would be tapped for socio-civic works that are hooked on health and environmental projects in their respective communities.

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IBM ThinkPad G40
- Intel® Pentium® 4 Processor 2.6GHz
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- 256MB DDR SDRAM
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- Integrated 56K modem/Ethernet LAN
- DVD/CDRW Combo FDD
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People, Events & Products

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Editor Aries Espinosa

Protecting the neighborhood from cockroaches

FOR MANY of us controlling cockroaches is an ongoing and unenviable task. Traditionally we have tried to drown the cockroaches in aerosol sprays but in fact, the best way to control cockroach is usually to "think" like cockroach and utilize their natural behavior.

As a result of ongoing research into cockroach control, there is a new method which requires no spraying. Maxforce Gold Cockroach Gel is a revolutionary cockroach control treatment that is not only highly effective, long lasting, and fast acting but is much more convenient and poses no hazard to your family, pets and the environment.

Maxforce Gold Cockroach Gel contains a new generation, super low dose active ingredient in unique gel formulation. This technology requires the accurate placement of spots (about 0.1 gram or 6 millimeter in diameter) to areas where cockroach enter, hide and forage, thus reducing the volume of product normally applied by several hundred folds.

Maxforce Gold Cockroach Gel is different to sprays because it naturally attracts cockroaches to feed on it since it contains special ingredient that serve as food to cockroaches. Upon feeding on the gel, the cockroaches take Maxforce Gold back to the nest and contaminate the remaining cockroaches - even the ones you don't see. By utilizing the natural behavior of cockroaches to take it back to the nest, Maxforce Gold Cockroach Gel controls cockroaches at their source, providing highly effective and long-term control. The gel which remains after the cockroaches has been controlled will continue to be effective and will control future infestations for a period of about three months.

In using Maxforce Gold Cockroach Gel, it is very important to identify the right places where cockroaches enter the premises, hide and forage. Apply the gel in these areas for the best accuracy. You can even apply the gel in electric outlets and appliances which is not possible with sprays.

By using Maxforce Gold Cockroach Gel, you do not need to empty cupboards, cover up food or leave the area of treatment when the application is being made. There is minimal disruption to your daily activities. There is no odor, no mess and no unsightly residues, but best of all there's no cockroaches!

Jason Nash, Bayer Environmental Science Development and marketing manager for South East Asia and India, says Maxforce Gold's unique gel formula and application method provides the most advanced cockroach treatment on the market. "We have only received positive feedback on the product so far" he says, "what people like most, is its ease of use compared to other methods, not to day that even in the most difficult of situations pest controllers have now been able to bring cockroaches under control".

"By developing a treatment which infiltrates cockroach populations rather that flushing them out, Maxforce Gold Cockroach Gel not only utilizes very small doses but also controls entire cockroach populations for months." Nash said.

Leading cockroach control experts throughout the world who has worked with Maxforce Gold Cockroach Gel, all say that "cockroach gel technology, is a more effective and environmentally sensitive cockroach treatment making it the future of cockroach control."

To find out more about the most advances and environmentally sensitive cockroach treatment available, contact your pest control operator and specify the use of Maxforce Gold today. For free brochure on Maxforce Gold, contact Bayer Environmental Science at telephone nos.: 02-450-3537 or 02-450-3758. You can also e-mail, michelle.medenilla@bayercropscience.com. or visit www.bayer-science.com.sq.

CHOKOY'S PLAYGROUND OPENS IN QUEZON CITY

Chokoy's Playground, a new concept for dining and shopping for novelty items for pets and scuba enthusiasts is now open. It is located along Kalayaan Avenue in Quezon City. The bright-painted complex has three dining outlets; Barko, an open air dining area where fresh-grilled and spirited drinks are served. Chokoy's Sea - Okoy Divers' Bistro Bar, the watering hole and dining area for the scuba 'kool dawgs' and Chokoy's Pets, Dog Lovers Cafe and Snack Bar area where you can have a date with your dog. Photo shows Senator Fred Lim, Rep. Reylina Nicolas of Bulacan and Catalina Salazar cutting the ribbon formally opening the complex.

GOODWILL BOOKSTORE LAUNCHES HARRISON'S 16TH EDITION

Goodwill Bookstore, a leading name in the book selling industry, recently lunched the 16th edition of Harrison's Principles of Internal Medicine at the Rosal function room of Edsa Shangri-La Hotel. Harrison's is a trusted reference the world over with its in-depth compilation of the latest breakthroughs and discoveries in the field of medicine. With the launch of Harisson's 16th edition, Goodwill Bookstore strengthens its approach in further expanding their services. Aside from having 10 branches nationwide, the company also ventures into wholesaling textbooks that cater to various fields of study. By spearheading this endeavor, Goodwill Bookstore continues to reinforce its image as a reliable and competent powerhouse of educational textbooks and reference materials. Harrison's 16th edition will be exclusively available at all Goodwill Bookstore branches nationwide beginning this August. Shown in photo are Patrick Chan, medical sales director of McGraw-Hill and Maria Teresa Cancio-Suplico president of Goodwill Bookstore.

PNB HOSTS EXHIBIT

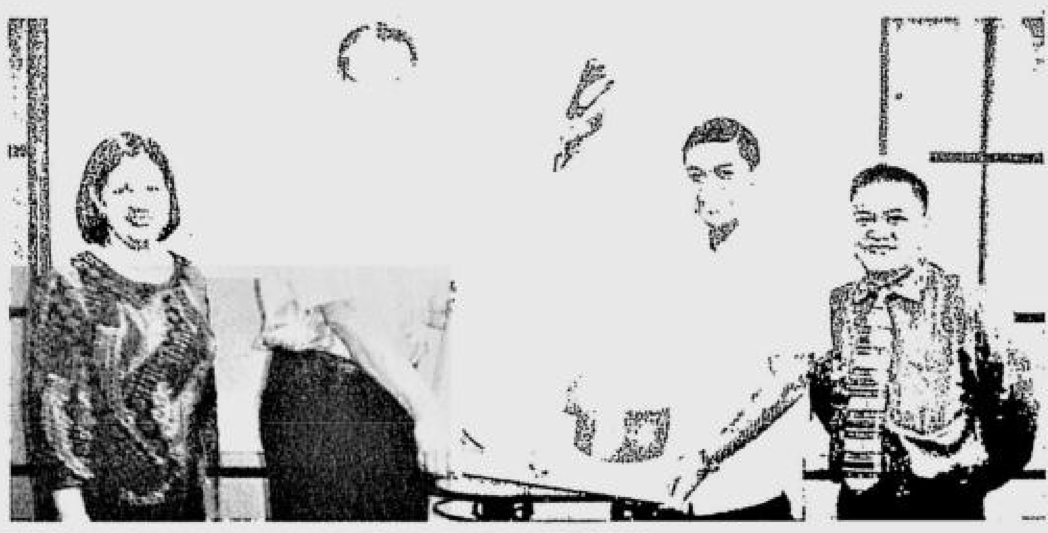
The Philippine National Bank recently hosted a three-day Sacred Heart Exhibit, Hearts Ablaze with Love: A Pilgrimage of Faith and Love Through History, at the PNB Financial Center, President Diosdado Macapagal Blvd., Pasay City. The exhibit aims to deepen devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. At the ribbqn cutting ceremony marking the opehing of the religious exhibit are from left: PNB chair Francisco Dizon, Davao Archbishop Fernando Capalla, DD, and PNB first senior vice president Rita Bautista.

Coltrans gets ISO certificate

COLUMBIA Transport Inc (Coltrans), one of the leading freight forwarder achieves another milestone. Recently, the company received an ISO 9001-2000 Certification awarded by TUV Product Service, an international certifying body.

Coltrans now on its 18th years operations, effectively implemented its quality management system to drive service excellence and demonstrated full compliance with the requirements. It is involved in international and domestic freight forwarding, customs brokerage, exhibition cargo, handling, warehousing and distribution, household removals, packing and crating and trucking, and has been certified by TUV Products and Services and DAR (a certifying body based in Germany) for ISO 9001-2000.

Coltrans today, is affiliated with JAS (Jet Air Service), with over 150 offices worldwide, and member of the most prestigious association, the International Air Transport Association (IATA). Locally, the company is a member of Air Cargo Forwarders of the Philippines Inc (Afpi), Philippine International Seafreight Forwarders Association (Pisfa), Association of Professional Congress Exhibition Organizers and Suppliers (Apceos), Philippine Institute of Supply Management, Philexport, European Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines, American Chamber of Commerce, SBMA, Chamber of Customs Broker Inc, Federation of Customs Brokerage Companies of the Philippines. The company is also certified by the Philippine Shippers' Bureau and Civil Aeronautics Board and accredited by Citem, National Power Corp, PNOC, Pagcor and Peza.



THE PALMS FATHER'S DAY PROMO WINNER

The Palms Country Club Alabang, in cooperation with Eleksis Marketing Corp, exclusive distributor of Bose, recently awarded its Father's Day promo winner with a pair of Bose 201 speakers. Shown during the awarding (from left) Michelle Tuason (The Palms PR and activities manager), The Palms GM Graham Kiy, Camarines Sur Rep. Luis Raymundo Villafuerte Jr., the lucky winner, and Ding Lapira, of Eleksis

More PEP on pages

AWARDING OF SIF-ASEAN STUDENT FELLOWSHIPS TO FILIPINO STUDENTS

At an award ceremony held at the Singapore Embassy, the Ambassador Lim Kheng Hua, presented the Singapore International Foundation-Asean Student Fellowship awards to nine outstanding Filipino students. The nine, who have been given the opportunity to study for a semester at the universities in Singapore are from the Ateneo de Manila University, De La Salle University, University of the Philippines and University of Santo Tomas. They have shown excellent academic results and an active interest in organizing community and student activities. This year's Fellows are: Angela Constantino, Christopher Daguimol, Gabriel Francisco Holigores,'Patrick Wilson Ong Lim, Roy Mendoza, Richard Rubman Pact Que, Victoria Christian Rivera, Maida Marie Salcedo and Wilfred Oliver Segovia. They will join the ranks of some 90 young Filipinos who have already benefited from this Fellowship. Shown with them is guest-of-honor, Hon. Teodoro Locsin Jr, Representative of the 1st District of Makati.

Study finds shorter treatment for hepatitis C

A NEW study published in the recent issue of the Journal of Hepatology revealed a shorter period of treatment but more effective for treating hepatitis C Types 2 and 3. The results gave new hope for more than 10 million people affected with the said condition.

The participants of the study, 93 percent of genotype 2 and 79 percent of genotype 3, were given a 24-week treatment of peginterferon alfa-2b and ribavirin based on their body weight. Data showed that patients achieved a sustained virologic response (SVR) and better tolerance as compared with a 48-week treatment.

SVR was measured in order to determine the efficacy of the treatment. However, the medical researchers said that factors such as baseline viremia (p=0.020), treatment duration of more than 16 weeks, and steatosis (fatty degeneration of the liver) may influence the results of the treatment.

"Patients in this study with HCV Genotype 3 and high baseline viremia experience higher relapse rates," said professor Stefan Zeuzem, MD, of Saarland University, Germany. Additional studies are petitioned to observe if these patients should be treated longer than 24 weeks.

In summary, the safety profile of the 24-week treatment of pigenterferon alfa-2b and ribavirin was improved. There were only 6 percent of patients reporting serious adverse events, 5 percent discontinuing treatment due to adverse events, and 18 percent requiring dose reduction due to adverse events as compared to 48-week treatment which has almost twice the figures.

The results of the study reinforces that the treatment can be effective for specific chronic hepatitis C patient groups and proves as a new evidence to support a rationale for an individualized approach to treatment.

Peginterferon alfa-2b and ribavirin are exclusively distributed in the country by Schering-Plough Corp under the brand names PegIntron and Rebetol respectively.

DUNLOP SPONSORS SPORTSHOUSE BADMINTON TOURNEY

Dunlop Sport again sponsored this year's Sportshouse Corporate and Celebrity Cup Invitational badminton tournament at the SM Megamall in Mandaluyong, Metro Manila. The 2004 edition of the badminton tourney is also backed-up by Bengay, Quantum Global, Ratsky, IBC-13, and the Philippine Daily Inquirer. Photo shows Cecile Reyes (at the rostrum) addressing the formal launching of the Sportshouse project held at Valle Verde in Pasig, Metro Manila.

ProductFILES

Tanduay White wins International Gold at 2004 Monde Selection

TANDUAY
WHITE

Tanduay's 150 years tradition of manufacturing world-class quality rhum received a big boost when Tanduay White Premium Rhum won the gold medal in the 2004 World Selection of Spirits and Liquors by the prestigious Monde Selection in Brussels, Belgium. During the official closing ceremonies held last June 28, where all awards and distinctions were presented before an international audience, Tanduay White was specifically cited for its "exquisite blending and meticulous filtration resulting in a flawlessly clear spirit with a sweet and spicy tang." The new gold medal brings to one hundred eleven, the total number of international awards won by Tanduay Distillers to date. This international honor is a testament to the ability of the Filipino to compete against the world's best and be a class of its own. It is also a fitting tribute to the world-class manufacturing facilities of Tanduay Distillers which is celebrating its 150th year anniversary this year.

Mentor helps set this SME on path to success

By Emmaruth Gabriel
Contributor

THE DIZONS

AFTER close to 15 years of making cassava cakes, Corell's Bakeshop just dealt a big, and unexpected, blow.

Their biggest buyer, an established native delicacies outlet in Pampanga, just dropped them for another supplier.

That supplier absorbed the 80-100 boxes of cassava cakes per day, and over 1,000 boxes during Christmas and New Year's Eve, that Corell's produced.

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"At first they would only order a little from their new supplier," recalls Raymund Dizon. It was only a matter of time before they were cut off.

"Our business was then a losing proposition," Dizon says.

Corell's Bakeshop barely made P2,000 a day in sales, but they still continued paying P11,000 in rent and the escalation clause on their lease was to take effect soon.

PINOY ENTREPRENEUR

"We pushed our products ourselves. In strategic locations, we put up branch outlets under the trade name - Corell's, hoping to offset our lost sales." Raymund says. "We reached a point when we thought of selling the business.

Fortunately, Raymund stumbled upon the Philippine Business for Social Progress' (PBSP) Corporate Volunteers for Enterprise Development (CVED) program.

Adapted from the Canadian Executive Service Organization (CESO) and with funding from the Canadian International Development Agency, CVED aims to provide a link between fledgling micro, small and medium entrepreneurs and accomplished volunteer advisers or mentors who offer free business consulting.

What sets this program apart is the effective use of volunteerism among top executives of major corporations.

Under the CVED program, entrepreneurs like him would be working directly with committed volunteer expert advisers (known as volunteer advisers or VAs) chosen for their skills and expertise in business operations.

Raymund found a lifeline.

Losing no time, he applied for the CVED Advisory Services. As in an executive medical check-up where a patient undergoes a thorough examination, Raymund's whole application went through a careful assessment and diagnosis of his company's business needs.

"It takes around two weeks to three to have a proper diagnosis of the business. Then everything is documented," explains Matt Navalta, CVED Program Manager.

What ails you

After numerous meetings with the Dizons, initial problems were gradually identified.

One of these problems was the short shelf life of Corell's cassava cake. It lasted for only two to three days, like other native rice cakes.

Another important observation brought out by Navalta was the issue of whether Corell's should concentrate on supplying or go to the retail market itself.

If the Dizons get a production outfit in Manila, would the recipe and final product be consistent with what they had been dishing out the past 15 years? With limited resources, can they afford stand-alone stores?

Looking through PBSP-CVED's roster of 32 volunteer advisers from the academe, marketing, production management, organization and financial management fields, Navalta found a match for the troubled bakeshop. Comparing his documented observations and resumés and application forms of VAs, Navalta matched Corell's with Connie Cagahastian.

Cagahastian, the VA matched to mentor and help Corell's through its difficulties, is experienced in turning distressed companies around.

Her business acumen and know-how came from the University of San Francisco in California and the Pasig Chamber of Commerce & Industry, where she served as vice president.

In 130 days, she consulted the young entrepreneurs toward a roadmap that will guide them in generating new business, minimizing operation cost and space planning.

Payoff

What convinced Cagahastian to take on the Correl assignment was the product itself—Correl's cassava cake.

Correl's cassava cake comes from a special Dizon family recipe that utilizes a special type of cassava, otherwise known as the yellow miracle variety.

This, Raymund says, is grown in the Dizon family farm in Central Luzon. This yellow variety has double the fiber found in other root crops, like ordinary cassava and sweet potatoes, which are rich in potassium and other minerals as well.

Cagahastian advised the Dizons to tap markets where they can distribute fast and not rely on meager retail sales.

Nowadays, the Dizons are busy delivering to a number of outlets, including big hotels in Central Luzon. With the help of Cagahastian, exploratory talks with a giant bakeshop in Manila are on the way.

The Dizons are also looking to tap the industrial outlets in Clark and Hacienda Luisita, not to mention the other lucrative *pasalubong* market in airports and other transportation terminals.

To address the short shelf life of their cassava cakes, the use of vacuum-sealed packaging or experiment with blast freezing was suggested. Employing these technologies will extend the three-day shelf life to two weeks. Raymund is currently looking for suppliers of these technologies.

Cagahastian also suggested a re-negotiation of the lease contract with the lot owner. Having done such, the Dizons reduced their lease payments.

THE CASSAVA business nearly closed shop until a lending hand came along.

To solve the distribution problems, Raymund's VA suggested they look for distributors and give commissions on items sold.

Lastly, Raymund's VA helped set the direction of their business. They would go back to supplying—their core competence, rather than develop their own brand and stand alone stores.

"My father and I were cracking our heads. So we invited someone else to have an objective view. (We) were emotional about what happened," Raymund says.

After a month of going through the mentoring problem, Correl's is doing better these days. Monthly sales have doubled and they may reach their break-even point soon.

"With CVED, they encourage you, give you hope and insights, so you see the opportunities and markets you can tap," Raymund says.

Speaking as a true beneficiary of the adage, "Helping people help themselves," Raymund gives his two thumbs-up to this mentoring scheme.

More than psychic income, volunteer advisers see the long-term benefit of helping SMEs. They know it redounds to the common good. Moreover, CVED is proving to be a vehicle for self-actualization. They are committed so they can give back what they have been blessed with in the corporate world.

There are no exorbitant consulting fees at CVED. It is all in the spirit of volunteering one's skills to genuinely help entrepreneurs.

In Makati, marketing/business consultants come with a hefty tag price. They go anywhere from P40,000 to P60,000 in professional fees alone. Add in transportation and accommodation expenses for bringing them in, it can sum up to P 80,000 when you engage professional consulting outfits.

For people like the Dizons, such amount would just have made them fold up. There has to be some paying forward and small entrepreneurs hope to find more people who don't mind sharing time and expertise to help distressed companies get back into shape.

(For inquiries, please contact Matt Navalta of CVED-Philippine Business for Social Progress at 5277741 to 49 or cved@pbsp.org.ph)

Riding the waves, Manila Water celebrates seven years of successful privatization

Manila Water

Mayor Feliciano "SB" Belmonte helps Manila Water president Antonino T. Aquino inaugurate a community water project in Barangay Pasong Tamo, in Quezon City.

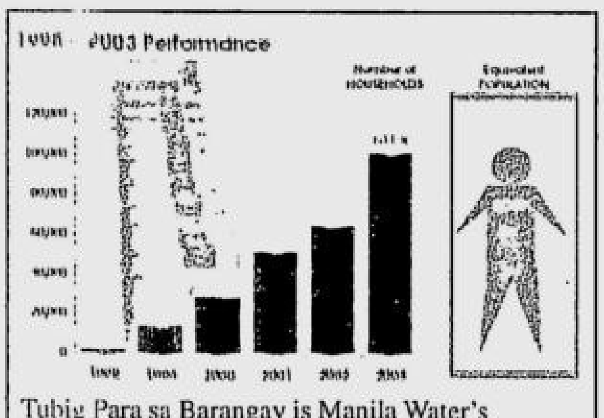
President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo with Manila Mayor Lito Atienza at a TPSB project in Sta. Ana, Manila.

Kids show their appreciation in Bgy. Welfareville, Mandaluyong. It's all about 'malasakit' where it counts.

Water for everybody

Every afternoon, Aling Evelyn would spend her time huddled with neighbors at a local sari-sari store near her small house. The store is owned by her kumpare, Mang Apiong, in a section of Addition Hills where most wives like to congregate, sometimes with their small children in tow, to discuss the day's events.

Addition Hills is a small speck of a barangay at the heart of bustling Mandaluyong City's government center, a familiar landscape for most motorists who traverse the highways that connect Mandaluyong with its neighboring municipality, San Juan.



Tubig Para sa Barangay is Manila Water's flagship program.To date, it has provided clean and affordable water connection to over 680,000 people in urban poor communities in the East Zone.

"*Marami na ang naging pagbabago sa lugar namin mula noong tumira kami dito noong 1984. Noong araw ay tambakan lang ito ng basura: malangaw, marumi at di madaanan ng saksakyan. Kakaunti pa nga kaming nakatira noon, ni wala nga kaming kuryente at tubig* (A lot has changed in our area since we moved here in 1984. Before, this used to be a dumpsite with swarms of flies, dirty surroundings and inaccessible roads. There were few of us then, we didn't even have electricity nor water in our homes.)," quips Aling Evelyn as she scans the surrounding.

"*Pinakamahirap siguro 'yung kakulangan namin ng inumin at magagamit na tubig sa pang araw-araw. Kung gusto mong may magamit, kailangan kang mag-igib nang malayo. Ngayon, maayos na ang aming kapaligiran, hindi na rin kami hirap kasi may linya na ng tubig* (The hardest was the lack of drinking water and water for our daily needs. If you wanted water, you needed to fetch it from some considerable distance. But now, everything is a lot better, water is no longer a problem because we have our own water line)," relates Evelyn.

Caring for customers by providing a basic need

Water is not a privilege but a right of everyone. As water service provider to four million residents of the East Zone, Manila Water has been expanding water service coverage for the past seven years, particularly in the poor communities. In 1998, Manila Water launched the "Tubig Para sa Barangay (TPSB)" Program as a comprehensive program that customers like Aling Evelyn would have access to clean water at an affordable price.

To date, the TPSB has proven to be very successful and has helped build hundreds of communities throughout the East Zone. The TPSB has also pushed the company's overall "may malasakit" brand of service by touching the lives of more than 680,000 marginalized people. A key ingredient in the success of the TPSB is its aggressive rollout. By mid-2003 alone, Manila Water had already surpassed its yearend TPSB target of 100,000 households after 110,000 households were connected to the central supply network.

The success of the TPSB may be attributed to the sustained efforts of Manila Water's field personnel who work tirelessly in each territory and have direct contact with various stakeholders, convincing them to accept piped water as a better alternative to the more expensive and unsafe water peddled by ambulant water vendors.

Reduced losses mean more water

Undaunted by the El Niño phenomenon, which had its worst bout in 1997 and caused the dwindling of water supply by as much as 37 percent by the end of 1998, Manila Water embarked on a massive pipe replacement and network improvement program to provide water to more areas. Over P9 billion has so far been spent since 1997 to reduce water losses either through leaks or illegal connections from a high of 63 percent to 47 percent as of 2004. The significant reduction in losses also resulted in 150 million liters per day (MLD) of water savings since 1997.

The huge amount of water saved enabled Manila Water to distribute additional water supply to 350,000 new connections via the 400 kilometers of new pipelines it had laid. Billed volume also doubled from 400 MLD in 1997 to 800 MLD in 2004.

Safe water supply

Illegal tapping and leaks not only deprive legitimate customers access to steady water supply, but also cause water contamination. To safeguard public health, Manila Water, through its seven business areas, has fixed a total of 3,320 leaks on main pipelines and 202,979 leaks on service pipe connections since the start of the concession.

The company is making sure that the quality of water is never compromised. Water supplied by Manila Water to its area has continually surpassed the 95 percent limit set by the Department of Health for drinking water. This high water quality is further supported by test results which showed 7,128 out of 7,138 samples taken from customers' taps between January and December 2003 complying with the bacteriological standards set by the Philippine National Standards for Drinking Water (PNSDW) a seal of assurance against disease-causing microorganisms that may be found in drinking water.

Improved quality of life

Not far behind the water expansion projects is the company's wastewater program. An aggressive P7 billion sewerage and sanitation gameplan is currently being implemented involving the construction of 27 new sewage treatment plants in organized urban communities in the East Zone, which will service the needs of 200,000 people by the end of 2004, and the provision of sanitation facilities for those who use septic tanks, which will benefit 3.4 million people in the next five years.

Earlier, the company had completed a major rehabilitation of the 40 million-liters-per-day capacity Ayala Wastewater Treatment Plant in Makati, and the seven MLD capacity sewage plant at the University of the Philippines (UP)-Diliman campus in Quezon City. Each plant has 100 percent compliance of final effluent quality with Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) standards.

The sewerage and sanitation program will help reduce the discharge of raw sewage into the environmentally-endangered Pasig River. Manila Water will build a 600 cubic-meter-per-day septage treatment plant next year to address the treatment of collected sludge from septic tanks. Two more septage tanks will be constructed before the end of 2008.

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Cagahastian, the VA matched to mentor and help Corell's through its difficulties, is experienced in turning distressed companies around.

Her business acumen and know-how came from the University of San Francisco in California and the Pasig Chamber of Commerce & Industry, where she served as vice president.

In 130 days, she consulted the young entrepreneurs toward a roadmap that will guide them in generating new business, minimizing operation cost and space planning.

Payoff

What convinced Cagahastian to take on the Correl assignment was the product itself—Correl's cassava cake.

Correl's cassava cake comes from a special Dizon family recipe that utilizes a special type of cassava, otherwise known as the yellow miracle variety.

This, Raymund says, is grown in the Dizon family farm in Central Luzon. This yellow variety has double the fiber found in other root crops, like ordinary cassava and sweet potatoes, which are rich in potassium and other minerals as well.

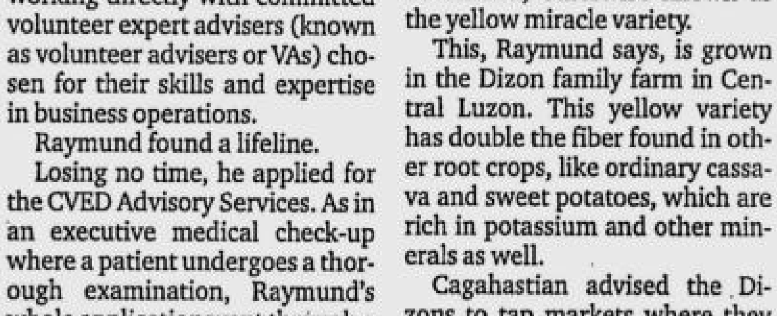
Cagahastian advised the Dizons to tap markets where they can distribute fast and not rely on meager retail sales.

Nowadays, the Dizons are busy delivering to a number of outlets, including big hotels in Central Luzon. With the help of Cagahastian, exploratory talks with a giant bakeshop in Manila are on the way.

The Dizons are also looking to tap the industrial outlets in Clark and Hacienda Luisita, not to mention the other lucrative *pasalubong* market in airports and other transportation terminals.

To address the short shelf life of their cassava cakes, the use of vacuum-sealed packaging or experiment with blast freezing was suggested. Employing these technologies will extend the three-day shelf life to two weeks. Raymund is currently looking for suppliers of these technologies.

Cagahastian also suggested a re-negotiation of the lease contract with the lot owner. Having done such, the Dizons reduced their lease payments.



THE CASSAVA business nearly closed shop until a lending hand came along.

To solve the distribution problems, Raymund's VA suggested they look for distributors and give commissions on items sold.

Lastly, Raymund's VA helped set the direction of their business. They would go back to supplying—their core competence, rather than develop their own brand and stand alone stores.

"My father and I were cracking our heads. So we invited someone else to have an objective view. (We) were emotional about what happened," Raymund says.

After a month of going through the mentoring problem, Correl's is doing better these days. Monthly sales have doubled and they may reach their break-even point soon.

"With CVED, they encourage you, give you hope and insights, so you see the opportunities and markets you can tap," Raymund says.

Speaking as a true beneficiary of the adage, "Helping people help themselves," Raymund gives his two thumbs-up to this mentoring scheme.

More than psychic income, volunteer advisers see the long-term benefit of helping SMEs. They know it redounds to the common good. Moreover, CVED is proving to be a vehicle for self-actualization. They are committed so they can give back what they have been blessed with in the corporate world.

There are no exorbitant consulting fees at CVED. It is all in the spirit of volunteering one's skills to genuinely help entrepreneurs.

In Makati, marketing/business consultants come with a hefty tag price. They go anywhere from P40,000 to P60,000 in professional fees alone. Add in transportation and accommodation expenses for bringing them in, it can sum up to P 80,000 when you engage professional consulting outfits.

For people like the Dizons, such amount would just have made them fold up. There has to be some paying forward and small entrepreneurs hope to find more people who don't mind sharing time and expertise to help distressed companies get back into shape.

(For inquiries, please contact Matt Navalta of CVED-Philippine Business for Social Progress at 5277741 to 49 or cved@pbsp.org.ph)

Riding the waves, Manila Water celebrates seven years of successful privatization

Manila Water

President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo with Manila Mayor Lito Atienza at a TPSB project in Sta. Ana, Manila.

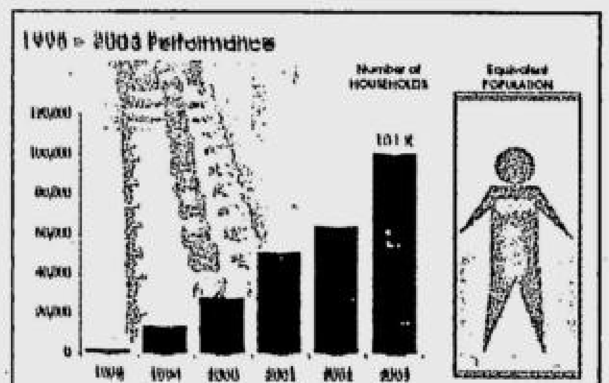
Mayor Feliciano "SB" Belmonte helps Manila Water president Antonino T. Aquino inaugurate a community water project in Barangay Pasong Tamo, in Quezon City.

Kids show their appreciation in Bgy. Welfareville, Mandaluyong. It's all about 'malasakit' where it counts.

Water for everybody

Every afternoon, Aling Evelyn would spend her time huddled with neighbors at a local sari-sari store near her small house. The store is owned by her kumpare, Mang Apiong, in a section of Addition Hills where most wives like to congregate, sometimes with their small children in tow, to discuss the day's events.

Addition Hills is a small speck of a barangay at the heart of bustling Mandaluyong City's government center, a familiar landscape for most motorists who traverse the highways that connect Mandaluyong with its neighboring municipality, San Juan.



Tubig Para sa Barangay is Manila Water's flagship program.To date, it has provided clean and affordable water connection to over 680,000 people in urban poor communities in the East Zone.

"Marami na ang naging pagbabago sa lugar namin mula noong tumira kami dito noong 1984. Noong araw ay tambakan lang ito ng basura: malangaw, marumi at di madaanan ng saksakyan. Kakaunti pa nga kaming nakatira noon, ni wala nga kaming kuryente at tubig (A lot has changed in our area since we moved here in 1984. Before, this used to be a dumpsite with swarms of flies, dirty surroundings and inaccessible roads. There were few of us then, we didn't even have electricity nor water in our homes.)," quips Aling Evelyn as she scans the surrounding.

"Pinakamahirap siguro 'yung kakulangan namin ng inumin at magagamit na tubig sa pang araw-araw. Kung gusto mong may magamit, kailangan kang mag-igib nang malayo. Ngayon, maayos na ang aming kapaligiran, hindi na rin kami hirap kasi may linya na ng tubig (The hardest was the lack of drinking water and water for our daily needs. If you wanted water, you needed to fetch it from some considerable distance. But now, everything is a lot better, water is no longer a problem because we have our own water line)," relates Evelyn.

Caring for customers by providing a basic need

Water is not a privilege but a right of everyone. As water service provider to four million residents of the East Zone, Manila Water has been expanding water service coverage for the past seven years, particularly in the poor communities. In 1998, Manila Water launched the "Tubig Para sa Barangay (TPSB)" Program as a comprehensive program that customers like Aling Evelyn would have access to clean water at an affordable price.

To date, the TPSB has proven to be very successful and has helped build hundreds of communities throughout the East Zone. The TPSB has also pushed the company's overall "may malasakit" brand of service by touching the lives of more than 680,000 marginalized people. A key ingredient in the success of the TPSB is its aggressive rollout. By mid-2003 alone, Manila Water had already surpassed its yearend TPSB target of 100,000 households after 110,000 households were connected to the central supply network.

The success of the TPSB may be attributed to the sustained efforts of Manila Water's field personnel who work tirelessly in each territory and have direct contact with various stakeholders, convincing them to accept piped water as a better alternative to the more expensive and unsafe water peddled by ambulant water vendors.

Reduced losses mean more water

Undaunted by the El Niño phenomenon, which had its worst bout in 1997 and caused the dwindling of water supply by as much as 37 percent by the end of 1998, Manila Water embarked on a massive pipe replacement and network improvement program to provide water to more areas. Over P9 billion has so far been spent since 1997 to reduce water losses either through leaks or illegal connections from a high of 63 percent to 47 percent as of 2004. The significant reduction in losses also resulted in 150 million liters per day (MLD) of water savings since 1997.

The huge amount of water saved enabled Manila Water to distribute additional water supply to 350,000 new connections via the 400 kilometers of new pipelines it had laid. Billed volume also doubled from 400 MLD in 1997 to 800 MLD in 2004.

Safe water supply

Illegal tapping and leaks not only deprive legitimate customers access to steady water supply, but also cause water contamination. To safeguard public health, Manila Water, through its seven business areas, has fixed a total of 3,320 leaks on main pipelines and 202,979 leaks on service pipe connections since the start of the concession.

The company is making sure that the quality of water is never compromised. Water supplied by Manila Water to its area has continually surpassed the 95 percent limit set by the Department of Health for drinking water. This high water quality is further supported by test results which showed 7,128 out of 7,138 samples taken from customers' taps between January and December 2003 complying with the bacteriological standards set by the Philippine National Standards for Drinking Water (PNSDW) a seal of assurance against disease-causing microorganisms that may be found in drinking water.

Improved quality of life

Not far behind the water expansion projects is the company's wastewater program. An aggressive P7 billion sewerage and sanitation gameplan is currently being implemented involving the construction of 27 new sewage treatment plants in organized urban communities in the East Zone, which will service the needs of 200,000 people by the end of 2004, and the provision of sanitation facilities for those who use septic tanks, which will benefit 3.4 million people in the next five years.

Earlier, the company had completed a major rehabilitation of the 40 million-liters-per-day capacity Ayala Wastewater Treatment Plant in Makati, and the seven MLD capacity sewage plant at the University of the Philippines (UP)-Diliman campus in Quezon City. Each plant has 100 percent compliance of final effluent quality with Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) standards.

The sewerage and sanitation program will help reduce the discharge of raw sewage into the environmentally-endangered Pasig River. Manila Water will build a 600 cubic-meter-per-day septage treatment plant next year to address the treatment of collected sludge from septic tanks. Two more septage tanks will be constructed before the end of 2008.

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10T/MO -VP 1-4BR 10% DP MOVE-In Or No DP/0% INT 0919-4407826/51440055

1.6M C5 Nr The Fort
12T/mo. or 3Yrs No Int. or 10% D.P. LIPAT AGAD 2-4BR 15min Fr Mkti 0917-8313226

Classica Condo Makati
842-5009 Mrs Magat

CONDO UNITS 4 SALE RFO! NR MKT & D'FORT 10% MOVE IN 2BR 16K/MO. 0918-9384927

SOUTH OF MARKET TOWERS newest twin towers at d'fort see showroom 0927-7966939

FullyFurn @ D'FORT
2-5 BR LUXURY CONDO
BESIDE MARKET' 40-220m²
DENNIS • 0917-3507295

Own at Direct Cost in Global City 0917-5213838

•PACIFIC PLAZA FORT other condos Sale/Lease 776-6802

RUSH Ayala The Columns, Tower 2, 2BR, 1 parking, veranda, 21/F assume balance 5.2M 09178423129

BRAND NEW
77 Sct. Chuatoco 3-4BR
2car grge 0917-5271186

MANILA

NR UST, ESPANA TOWER
6873372 0917-8102903

Singalong Manila BnewTwnhse /3stry/3br/maid's rm1-2grge P3.960M up 8903461 loc. 34

MANDALUYONG

10%DP to move-in Mand RFO 123BR new 0916-5945185

8Wack² Penthouse 3BR 4T&B 209m² Furnish 15M 660-1058

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

HOUSE & LOT

LAGUNA

CONDO/TWNHSE

MANDALUYONG

• SOHO CENTRAL TOWER •
accross Shangri-la Plaza Mall see showroom, 0927-7968939

PASIG

1.6M Ortigas RFO
P13T- UP,10% DP Move - In No DP/0% INT 2-4BR 0920-2621205 / 5140055

Eastwood RSH 09198261431

NEAR PODIUM 0917-6414571

Only 6254/mo; 20%DP 1Y TP 2926137, 09178160250

VVERDE 3BR 1.8M T9124323

QUEZON CITY

BELICIA HOMES
Teachers Village
(# 73 Matimtiman St.)
Southwing now,
accepting reservation
P2.8M only
All concrete 3BR; 3TB
T-913-1737
• 439-6921
439-1995
HLURB Lic. to Sell 09080

C. BENITEZ 3STRY 3BR 3TB furn 6873372 0917-8102903

CUBAO P1.5M 5YRS TO PAY No Interest Move-In 9126976

EASTWOOD 77m² w/cg Rush! 0919-8261431 Olympic Hts

EASTWOOD Condo 25th Flr Julie 4260205 Rdy4Ocupancy

LUXURIOUS/AFFORDABLE 0916-2080746 or 941- 5641

SMH BNEW SINGLE DETACH 4BR 4TB 3CG 0917-7488929

TEACHERS VILLAGE
5BR 4TB Mabagin St 2car grge
Tel. 9132701 / 9132403

Timog 990T 40m² 20%dp 15yrs 2926137, 0917-8160250

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117 14th Ave., Cubao QC
A place that's in the heart of Araneta Center, close to your job and business.
ALL CONCRETE 4BR
3T&B 1CAR GARAGE UNDER
GROUND ELEC CABLE TEL
Bank & In-Hse Financing
439-6921
426-0531
913-1737

APARTMENT

LAGUNA

2 Sty 3dr Apt Metroville Sta Rosa Laguna P1.7M Neg Popoy 0917-5441746

LOT

KALOOCAN

Rainbow Village 5 LA 216m² P3,473/m² Vic 8903461 loc 25

650m²@P16T 715-7091

MAKATI

Samp P.Campa nr. UST 600m² VLot 721-3127 • 712-1127 Te

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

LOT

PARANAQUE

Sucat 240m² 715-8833 Emy

PASIG

METROVILLE SUBD LA333m² P4,054/m² Vic 8903461 loc 27

Rosario 1500 / 3000m² Wide Rd Nice Call 645-3731

RIZAL

Nr Sumulong 3Tm² 9318318

OTHER AREAS

RUSH SALE! TAGAYTAY/ BATULAO LOT Very near Evercrest Golf Club 3,100sqm - P900.00/sqm. Pls. call Sally T#862-0786 CP#0918-9057184 and 0918-9048737

TOWN & COUNTRY HILLS LA240m² P3,125/m² Vic 8903461 loc 27

VILLA LIGAYA 149m² & 134m2 P3,534/m² Vic 8903461 loc 27

PROVINCIAL

★100% TAGAYTAY ★
240m²-up 3,750/m² 135T D/P 6T Mo Best Loc nr Taal Vista 6609372

OTHER PROVINCIAL

Subasta Sale Pueblo Golf Cag de Oro Lot Overlkg Golf 606sqm 2.6M 0918-2534858

TAGAYTAY CITY LOT 2340 SQM NEAR MENDEZ JUNCTION CALL 09178229669 LOOK FOR NONOY

BATANGAS

RANCHO VISTA SUBD LA613m2 P2,248/m² Vic 8903461 loc 27

BULACAN

APPROVE FOR INDUSTRIAL DAMPOL 2ND B PULILAN BULACAN 3116 SQUARE METER Tel 3623045\616387 ROSE/JOE

SAN MIGUEL BUL 4000m² P180/m² Vic 8903461 loc 27

CAVITE

DON BOSCO EXEC HTS LA128m2 P2,900/m2 Vic 8903461 loc 27

PARKPLACE SUBD LA120m² P5,750/m² Vic 8903461 loc 27

RUSH Coastal Bay (The Riviera) Lot 180sqm, 6000/sqm Private Subdivision w/clubhouse & swimming pool 0917-8423129

SOUTHWD GOVRNRS DRV CRMONA 1227m² CP09178433758

ST. CHARBEL DASMA nr SM 371m2 P2,650m2 Vic 8903461 loc 27

LAGUNA

200m² Katapatan Subd
nr Pamantasan ng Cabuyao
Call 0916-6211732

HOT SPRING LOTS
LA 175m² & Up at P3,750/m² 30% D/P Bal. 3 Yrs to pay at 0% adjacent U.P. Los Banos Call: 842-9877 • Cell 0927-2946992

LA 110 sqm w/Title Makiling Hills Subd. Brgy Biga Calamba Laguna P450K •757-2978 /0920-5102154•

SOUTH PEAK P5,000/m2 LA240m2 Vic 8903461 loc 25/27

MEMORIAL LOT

Loy PQ 26L@1.4M Fly. Est; 4L@P180T Eden Crt.8386645

FARM/FISHPEN/RAWLANDS

Mango Orchard CagayanDeOro 3.2M Direct Buyer 0918-2534858

BULACAN

SAN MIGUEL BUL 4000m² P180/m² Vic 8903461 loc 27

CLUB SHARE & MEMBERSHIP

CITY SPORTS CLUB CEBU CLASS "A" CLUB SHARE TEL. 726-3218

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

BANK ACQUIRED ASSET FOR SALE

CAPIZ
2 sty. apartment building; LA 234 sqms.;
San Roque Extension, Roxas City
Selling Price: **P2,736,000.00**

MUNTINLUPA
Bungalow; 4 BR; 5 T&B; LA 10,000 sqms.; FA 898.93 sqms.;
No. 517 Acacia Avenue, Ayala-Alabang Village
Selling Price: **P132,350,000.00**

DAVAO
Various vacant residential lots: Country Ville Executive Homes, Bgy. Cabantian, Buhangin District:

BLK	LOT	LOT AREA	SELLING PRICE
1	3	120	110,880.00
1	5	120	110,880.00
1	6	149	137,676.00
1	8	149	137,676.00
1	1	182	168,168.00
1	4	149	137,676.00
1	12	147	135,828.00
1	9	120	110,880.00

For inquiries: please call:
UNITED COCONUT PLANTERS BANK
Asset Management & Disposition Division
Hotline No. 8119797

WANTED TO BUY

WANTED TO BUY

LOOKING FOR A PROPERTY

1) At least 10 hectares in Caloocan, Northern Q.C., Valenzuela, Meycauayan
2) At least 50 hectares in Meycauayan, Marilao & Bocaue

Desired characteristics: clean title, good location; w/ access from major roads and no flooding

Pls. contact tel. #849-3962 or send proposal, TCT & vicinity map to: MAVES, 28/F, Enterprise Ctr., 6766 Ayala Ave., Mkt.

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

COMMERCIAL

MANILA

PEDRO GIL cor. MEDEL
Highly Comm Xcelent Loc. Bank Resto w/Parking 633-6095 • 633-6167 Jo

QUEZON CITY

RETIRO Cor. CORDILLERA
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HOUSE

MAKATI

Dasmarinas Hse 4 Rent 3BR Den Lanai Nice Grdn Vicky 8242357 Agents Welcome

MANILA

HOUSE 4 RENT SN ANDRES BKD 09185369445 5890870

MARIKINA

2studio Cinco nr Ateneo 6819727

PARANAQUE

4BR SUKAT PRNQUE NR SSH 551-7832 (0920)5117590

QUEZON CITY

Corinthian P70T • 921-7468

CONDO/TWNHSE

KALOOCAN

NEW 1BR•2BR COM'L CLINIC•OFFICE•P6.5Tup
#162 P. Jacinto cor. #39 Biglang Awa Caloocan 5277616

MAKATI

2BR FUR CTR PARK 8447524

Mkt.2br Studio P8.5-P13.5 No due Near Ayala tel/prk/Secu 890-6374

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

CONDO/TWNHSE

MAKATI

BNew Condo Nr. For-Makati 2BR with Parking 12T/mo. 0916-4617642, 628-2665 -Mon

MKTI TOWNHOUSE 3BR 200 SQM CALL 811-1289/1916

NEW STUDIO / Coml / 2BR 6.5Tup 1672 Dian St. Mkti 843-9418•0918 9390355 Rose

MANILA

Astral Tower Opp PGH Taft 50sqm P15K/mo. Fully Furn Call 850-9893 809-0715

CONDO/APT 5636296/5610197

P.FFAURA ROBINSON TOWER 551-7832 (0920)511-7590

PASIG

3 Bedroom Unit
Amberland Plaza Condo
Ortigas Ctr Grace at
8109713 or 09183566271

QUEZON CITY

OHT-3 Unit 17H 2br Furnish Eastwood City Libis 633-0164

VALENCIA HILLS 2BR w/maid's rm parking unfurn 0922-8067388

SAN JUAN

XAVIER GRENHILS 9318318

APARTMENT

MANILA

2br nr Espana Sn Diego St. 2br nr PTuazon Proj4 4216693

MANDALUYONG

EST ST HWYHILLS 8212091

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT

NEW OFC, COMM'L UNITS
G/F & 2/F,
17sqm - 48sqm
109 Benin St.,
Caloocan near
Edsa, Monumento
Call Mrs. Chua 932-0762, 09175402918

APARTMENT

PASAY

2STY RES APT 4-6 PERSONS NO PARKING CALL GLEN OR ED NEAR PASAY CITY HALL 8313452 BET 8am - 6pm only

PASIG

KAPITOLYO STUDIO P4,500 GOOD 2 PERSON 635-3288

New 3BR 2TB Grg 6363707

QUEZON CITY

Residential apts 4 rent studio type accessible 2 all points affordable West Kamias 9254841 / 4356336

U/D 2BR Strong H2O 7809833

ROOM & BOARD

180 MLA 4112311;4113301

CUBAO 7004279 P2th/4500

•FURNISH PASAY 8872865•

Mkt Male FF/prkg/nice 8979417

BEDSPACE

Kamias Rd. Ladies 1.1K 4267157

Ladies New Near PCU PGH St. Paul UP PWU • 524-6291 Bernie • 0917-8220343

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2% W/O TAKING CAR 3677523/24

BUSN DOC OFW 524-3197

FINANCING-EASY FAST VERY PRIVATE CONVENIENT H/L BUSINESS PERSONAL Gigie Ernie 8903461 loc 25/23

LOT FOR LEASE

BATANGAS Port Diversion Industrial Lot P20/sqm 2500-18363sqm 817-1589

MAKATI

MAKATI nr BUENDIA PTAMO 38 /57/62/148/185/M² 1st class 8903461 loc 34 or 19 ofc hrs

OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT

157 & 115m² LEGAZPI VILL W/PRKNG CP09178433758

50 SQM UMC BLDG 900 UN AVE ERMITA TEL 5211114

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

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   a) restaurant lessee may buy equipment;
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   c) joint venture construction project
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   Three-cornered vacant property available for lease as is, where is; or joint venture for development

Please address your inquiry to:
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4th Floor, Tesoro's Bldg.
1325 A. Mabini St., Ermita, Manila

or by fax at: 522,1580

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CONDO/TWHSE/ FOR SALE/RENT

CONDO FOR SALE/RENT
BAYVIEW INTL. TOWER 3
Roxas Blvd Pque. Semi Furnished 4br+maids, 1-Parking. Sale P7.5M / Rent P65Kpm + dues. Neg. Contact 8934110 or 0927 8904030

TRANSPORTATION FOR SALE

CARS

HONDA

1996 Cvic VTI A/T P285 New Tires 09273640936 L-Seat

97 Civic ESI A/T 0917-5303152

CRV 2000 A/T GREEN P650,000 TEL 724-5322

MERCEDES

'85 MB best offer 6819727

MITSUBISHI

RUSH SALE LANCER GLXI SPORTY LOOK Floaded 2727813

NISSAN

'02 SERENA 1st Own P850T 12900mileage 0920-9112910

Nissan Patrol 2002 White A/T • 0917-4061980•

TOYOTA

00Revo lxv 1.8 a/t 495T 7233016

03 Toyota Super Grandia Elegant Pearl 3000Km, in good cond. 1.2M negotiable 09178423129 direct buyer only

VOLKSWAGON

98 Red Caravel 83T km 8901574

OTHER CAR BRANDS

00'Revo DLXgas mron 365T
01'Revo DLXdiesel wht 465T
00'Hilux 4X2 diesel 420T
00'Hilux 4x4 diesel 575T
00'Accord VTI A/T 585T
01' Sentra Exalta DS 420T
00'Urvan Shutle 15S 470T
01'Urvan Escapade 550T
01'L300 Versavan 395T 9318276 / 9254566 / 09209241801

Pajero Land Cruiser Surf Delica Serena Town-Lite HI Ace Prado Terrano Elf Canter 4-6W etc Finance T-In 9120647 09178342020

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20% DISCOUNT!
MAJOR OVERHAULING
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CARS/VANS/BRIDAL 8969956

Cheap Van Rental 9330311

NISSAN Urvan 0917-5444721

P800/L3 9136710 / 4333682

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1.5% Fast Car Loan 3677523/24

1.5% 1HR CAR LOAN 3743803

1.5% CARLOAN 373-6519

1.5% CARLOAN 533-8254

1.5% Easy Carloan 7815352/55

1.5% Fast Car Loan 6560140

1.5% Fast Car Loan 6567685

1.5% w/oTaking Car 3732081-82

1.5% w/oTaking Car 3650974/75

1.5% w/oTaking Car 7228942-43

•1HR Fast Car Loan 7125202•

2% w/o Taking Car 7262780

2% w/oTaking Car 8966630/33

2% w/oTaking Car 7221021

2% w/oTaking Car 8870490/95

2% w/oTaking Car 8959454

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

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Sale/Rental/Servce 8014494

BUY/SELL

Educ Plan - 2528373 Ramona

EDUC PLAN Gie 7800106

EDUC'L PLAN Dang 8061574

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KAWAI Baby Grand Piano
Fully Carved Rosewood Divider
German Made G'father's Clock
K'size Bedframe w/ 2 matching stable
Vanity Dresser, Sofa Set
Mahogany Wood Curio Cabinet
w/ Bevelled Glass
OWNER LEAVING
Lot Buying Price: 250T
Please Call: 09178543332

HEALTH & BEAUTY

Control Ur Weight 09178273404

Control weight now 3758988

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Cash Loan using your car as collateral!
BRAND NEW CARS ARE ALSO ACCEPTED
Fast Processing and Check release.
For more details
Pls. call at Tel. Nos.
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3733901 loc. 8220/8302/8303

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

PETS

PCCI
323rd & 324th
PCCI ALL-BREEDS DOGSHOWS
Mandaluyong Gym
Mandaluyong City
August 14 & 15, 2004
UNDER INT'L JUDGES
Mr. GRAHAM KERR
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STRICTLY NO ADDENDUM
Waiting for Handlers During PCCI Shows Is no longer Allowed
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Special Features:
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PCCI
AS PART OF OUR FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM TO DEVELOP CAMARADERIE AMONG MEMBERS PCCI WILL BE HOLDING SPORTS FEST ON *OCTOBER 30-31, 2004.* INTERESTED MEMBERS & DOG ENTHUSIASTS PLS. CALL THE PCCI TEL. 721-8345

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

WANTED TO BUY

WANTED TO BUY

WANTED TO BUY

WANTED
Looking for
HEAVY EQUIPMENTS
HITACHI BACKHOE UH-04W
HITACHI BACKHOE EX 100-1
HALLA BACKHOE EX 120WD
DAEWOO BACKHOE DH 05W
(ALL WHEEL TYPE)
EX 200-1 CHAIN TYPE
URGENTLY REQUIRED
Contact: **Mr. Asif (Cell.#:0927-5962195)**
Mr. Ed (Cell.#: 0918-5270659)
Email: pubni11392000@yahoo.com

TRANSPORTATION FOR RENT

CAR LOAN

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

PETS

PCCI
WILL BE GIVING SCHOLARSHIP TO QUALIFIED STUDENTS INTENDING TO TAKE-UP **VETERINARY MEDICINE** THIS 2nd SEMESTER. INTERESTED APPLICANTS ARE REQUESTED TO BRING TRANSCRIPT OF SCHOLASTIC RECORDS OR FORM 137 WITH FOUR 1"x1" ID PICTURES AT THE PCCI OFFICE AT RM. 206 HILLCREST CONDOMINIUM 1616 E. RODRIGUEZ SR. AVE. CORNER HILLCREST ST., CUBAO, QUEZON CITY. PRIORITY WILL BE GIVEN TO THE SONS/DAUGHTERS OF PCCI MEMBERS.

HEALTH & BEAUTY

SLIMMING PROGRAM 5221138

PETS

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Labrador Pups Call 9425737

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MISCELLANEOUS

Comple Dental Equipment See to Appreciate P280T Neg. 532-0067 • 531-3655

PUBLIC NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is Given that the Estate of the late Spouses Fernando and Luz Mangubat has been Extrajudicially settled among their heirs under Doc.No. 76, Page No.15, Book No. XXX1.Series of 2004,of Notary Public Fernando Collantes of the City of Manila.(PDI-Aug.8,15,22,2004)

NOTICE OF LOSS

Notice is hereby given of the lost Centro Escolar University Cert Nos. 3226; 4516; 5550; 6619; 7898 with a total of 82 shares in the name of Doris Yu. If no contest received new certificates will be issued.
PDI-July 25, August 1 & 8, 2004

PERSONAL

Thank you Blessed Mary for granting my wish! MALOU

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

Attn: PALAWAN Residents Extra Income 0917-7499447

ATTN:CEBU CITY RESIDENTS Extra Income 032-2641982 Nico

COFFEE SHOP FOR SALE NR DE LA SALLE UNIV MLA 800T(NEG) TEL(0920)9221529

Dollar 5.7%/yr. Net
10yr Term Min 2T 0920-9090749

•Trvl N Work Fr Home•
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8531008 09178901851 Arlene

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500,000 to 750,000 pesos Investment . Original investment plus 1.mil pesos paid back after a 6m to 1 year period, contract, supplied, with guarantee issued. Entertainment Industry. Call 6871732 or 9172414576 for further details. Serious investors only apply please.

Learn How to Build Int'l Franchise Wif Start-up of P20K-200K From Singapore Guru Call 0916-4888725

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JUNENC SALON EQUIP+BEST OFER 4133789 4149504 QC

RESTAURANT FOR SALE FULLY EQUIPPED T#801-72-03 Cell No. (0917)5398108

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

MALE

Wanted Computer Technician Call 8705218/8977083

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

DEALERSHIP

DEALERSHIP

DEALERSHIP

New dealers for premium skincare product

Our product is synonymous to premium internal skincare and has been a leading brand in the international market since the 1990s. In our expansion efforts, we are now looking for non-retail dealers to cover key cities nationwide.

We prefer **entrepreneurial women** who are already involved or have been involved in direct selling business, highly beauty and health conscious and are interested to add another product in their portfolio. We are also considering **owners of beauty/skincare centers**. Those interested may send a letter of intent that will indicate their business background and contact number.

They may send their letter to:
P.O. Box 1815 Makati CPO 1258
not later than August 20, 2004. We will contact those qualified within two weeks of receiving their letter to discuss more details about this business opportunity.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

MALE

PRIVATE NURSE PT ACGTG CLERK SEND RESUME PCTRE TO 22M ROBINSON TOWER P. FAURA MLA 551-7832

FEMALE

MKTI OFC STAFF & Pverto Plant Staff Fem. 20-25 Fluent Eng. Complit 8111289/8111916

SECRETARY-MANILA RESIDENT SEND:PO BOX 558 MANILA

MALE/FEMALE

ARTIST, MNGMNT TRAINEE, PROMOS
777 Katarungan, Mandaluyong (from Boni Circle, Enter Bumatay, Then Turn Right)

BSP•BSN•PT•NT
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JOSEPH A.D.G.
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Is in need of applicants for the following postions for local deployment:

Project Administration Architect 02

- Male, between 25 to 30 years old
- Must be self motivated, can work well with a team, quality oriented and can work well under pressure
- Should have at least 5 years experience in handing residential and mid-rise public and commercial projects independently in a medium to large size design consultancies.
- Should have experience in preparing contract and tender documents, writing and coordinating specifications and bills of quantities and coordinating MEP and STR packages with AR and ID
- Should have knowledge and experience of AutoCADD 2000, Corel 11, Adobe MS Word MS Excel MS Powerpoint and MS Access.

Project Production Architect 01

- Male or female, between 22 to 30 years old
- Must be self motivated, can work well with a team, quality oriented and can work well under pressure
- Should have at least 5 years experience in preparing manual and electronic architectural and engineering working drawings for residential and mid-rise public and commercial projects
- Should have the ability to understand and work-out basic and standard construction details independently
- Should have knowledge and experience of AutoCADD 2000, 3D Max, Corel 11, Adobe, MS Word MS Excel, MS Powerpoint and MS Access

- Serious candidates please apply via e-mail at jadgjavier@yahoo.com with the following details:
- Please mention clearly at the subject heading the position being applied for.
- Please include a covering letter and send your photograph and resume as PDF or DOC attachment. Please do not attach any portfolio and image files except for your photo.
- Resume should mention personal information, educational back ground, experience summary including former and current employers, projects handled and role performed, and professional references.

Dynamic, Hardworking, Talented, Young Graduates for Career in:

Product Development	Fine Arts, Advertising, Architecture
Export Marketing	Marketing, Accounting, Advertising
Local Salesmen	Engineering, Marketing, Accounting, Fine Arts
Quality Assurance	Industrial Engineering
Technical Services/ Production	Electrical, Mechanical, Chemical Engineering

EXPERIENCE AND SUPERVISORY CAPABILITY MAY BE CONSIDERED

Must be computer literate. Send resumé with picture to P.O. Box 7621,
Airmail Distribution Center,
N.A.I.A, Metro Manila.
Indicate desired compensation.

MUSIC TEACHER
(part/full time)

Qualifications:

- A christian
- At least 2 years work/teaching experience or new graduates with excellent scholastic records. Between 22 and 40 years old
- Courses preferred:
  - Bachelor of Music major in Music Education
  - BS in Education with specialization in Music
- Can play the piano, guitar or other musical instruments
- With experience in choral management

SALARY COMMENSURATE TO QUALIFICATIONS

Send complete resumé, photocopy of transcript of records, two letters of recommendations and recent 2x2 picture.

THE SCHOOL DIRECTOR
Makati Hope Christian School
2312 Pasong Tamo Ext., Makati City
(For more details, please call 818-2851 / 8167479)

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PHILIPPINE HEART CENTER
East Avenue, Quezon City

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY & TO BID

The Philippine Heart Center (PHC) is inviting bidders for:

DESCRIPTION	Approved Budget	Bidding Fee
a. Pulmonary Function Test Machine	P 2 million	P 3,500.00
b. Portable Ultrasound	1.05 million	2,550.00
c. 2 units elevators	5.0 million	5,000.00
d. repair & repainting of exterior walls & soffits including steel window frames & mullions of Hospital, Medical Arts and Service Buildings	5.0 million	5,000.00

Source of Funding: PHC FUNDS

The list of eligibility requirements will be issued at the Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) Secretariat, BAC office, 8th Flr., MAB, PHC, East Ave., Quezon City. Only eligible bidders shall be required to pay the non-refundable bidding fee. The deadline for the submission of requirements is on **August 21, 2004** not later than 4:00 p.m. For any inquiry, please call BAC Secretariat Office at Tel. No. 925-24-01 loc. 3888 ask for Ms. Noemi Nocasa.

The PHC reserves the right to reject any and all bids or declare a failure of bidding or not award the contract, if there is evidence of collusion between relevant public officers or employees of the PHC and any of the bidders, or among the bidders, or between bidders and third parties, including any act which restricts, suppresses or nullifies competition, or if the BAC is found to have failed to follow the prescribed bidding procedures. The agency also reserves the right to waive any formality on the bids received, provided that such waiver does not refer to a major deviation in a bid or any requirement provided for in the **Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of Republic Act No. 9184** pertaining to the substance of the bid. Should such review uncover any misrepresentation made in the eligibility statement, or any changes in the situation of the bidder materially downgrade the substance of such statements, the PHC shall disqualify the bidder upon due notice without any obligation whatsoever for any expenses or losses that may be incurred by it in the preparation of its bids.

(Sgd.) **RAUL D. JARA, M.D.**
Chairman, BAC

(PDI – August 8 & 15, 2004)

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Tel: (662) 237-9575 / 77 Fax: (662) 236-9829
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USAID

DISPOSAL SALE

USAID/Manila will conduct a Sealed Bid Sale of used residential furniture/equipment, appliances, and computer equipment, on an **"AS IS-WHERE IS"** basis.

All items can be inspected on August 9 - 10, 2004 from 8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. and on **August 11, 2004 from 8:00 to 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 to 2:00 p.m.** at USAID Warehouse, 2345 Aurora Blvd., (formerly Tramo St.) Pasay City. Bid forms are available at the site. Submission of bids and cash deposits (20% of the total bid) can be done at the site during the sale. Full payment and bid deposit refunds will be on August 12, 2004 at 8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the USAID/Cashier, 8th floor, PNB Financial Center, Roxas Blvd., Pasay City.

For further information, please call Mr. Romy S. Arquisola or Mr. Alfredo Q. Daluz at Tel. Nos. 852-9684, 514-4229, 514-4234 and 514-4236.

Australia signs agreements with SEC and PSE

PROJECT agreements that will help strengthen reforms and the regulation of capital markets were signed between the Australian Government and the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and the Philippine Stock Exchange (PSE). Held at the SEC building in Mandaluyong City, the ceremonies were led by Angus MacDonald, counsellor of the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID), lawyer Lilia R. Bautista, chair of the SEC, and Alicia Rita Arroyo, chair of the PSE. The two projects, which are being implemented separately, are being supported by a total grant of 3.13 million pesos. The PAGF, a component of Australia's Development Cooperation Programme in the Philippines, provides technical assistance to enhance governance at the national, regional and local government levels, including civil society and business organizations as development partners of government and local communities.

Philippine Amusement & Gaming Corporation
Responding Through Responsible Gaming

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID
ITB NO.: 05-34-2004

The Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corporation (PAGCOR) is inviting all interested bidders in its forthcoming public bidding for the project stated hereunder:

Project : One (1) lot Pre-Employment Medical Examination (Location of the diagnostic clinic must be within the City of Manila)
Approved Budget : Two Million Six Hundred Fifty Two Thousand Nine Hundred Ninety Two & 88/100 Pesos (P 2,652,992.88)
Source of Funds : Internally Funded

Only suppliers duly registered with PAGCOR may be allowed to participate in the bidding. Unregistered suppliers must register at the Suppliers Registration & Evaluation Section (SRES), Procurement & Property Department (PPD), 2nd Floor PAGCOR House, 1330 Roxas Blvd., Ermita, Manila, Tel. No. 526-0573.

The detailed project particulars and instructions to bidders are discussed in the **Bid Documents** available for issuance **from July 30, 2004 to August 24, 2004** at the BAC Secretariat Unit, PPD-Corporate upon payment of a non-refundable fee of ***One Thousand Pesos (Php 1,000.00)***. In order to secure the documents, bidders should present the Official Receipt issued by our Cashier to the BAC Secretary handling the project.

Pre-Bid Conference : **August 10, 2004** (2:00 pm)
Submission of Bids : **August 25, 2004** (2:00 pm)
Opening of Bids : **August 25, 2004** (2:00 pm onwards)

PAGCOR has the right to disqualify any prospective bidder if found that they have submitted falsified documents and/or information, and the right to accept or reject any or all bids, to annul the bidding process, to waive any defects or formalities found therein and to accept such bid or a part thereof as may be deemed most advantageous to PAGCOR, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders.

PAGCOR reserves the right to reject any and all bids, declare a failure of bidding, or not award the contract if there is *prima facie* evidence of collusion between appropriate public officers or employees of the agency, or between the BAC and any of the bidders, or if the collusion is between or among the bidders themselves, or between a bidder and a third party, including any act which restricts, suppresses or nullifies or tends to restrict, suppress or nullify competition, or if the BAC is found to have failed to follow the prescribed bidding procedures, or for any justifiable and reasonable ground where the award of the contract will not redound to the benefit of the government (R.A. 9184, Sec. 41).

Please address all communications to the BAC Secretariat Unit, Procurement & Property Department.

(Sgd.) **RAFAEL A. FRANCISCO**
Chairperson, BAC 3

(PDI--August 1 & 8, 2004)

INVITATION FOR BID
ARMM SOCIAL FUND PROJECT
Loan No. 7153 PH
IFB-ASF-02-2004

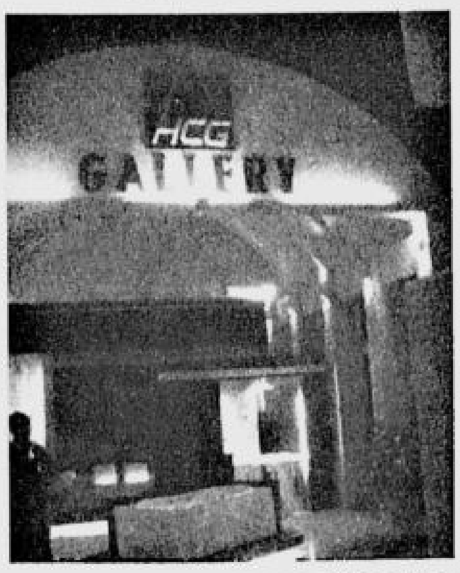
August 01, 2004

1. The Government of the Philippines through the ARMM Social Fund (ASF) has received a loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) towards the cost of strategic infrastructure component of the ARMM Social Fund (ASF) Project and it intends to apply a portion of this proceeds to cover eligible payments under the contract for the construction of various infrastructure sub-projects. Bidding is open to all bidders from eligible source countries as defined in the Guidelines: Procurement under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits.
2. The ARMM Social Fund (ASF) now invites sealed bid from eligible bidders for the construction/rehabilitation of the hereunder subproject:
   - **Sub-Project Code : SRI-MAG-RHF-001**
     Title : Rehabilitation and Improvement of Datu Blah Sinsuat District Hospital
     Location : Poblacion, Upi, Maguindanao
   - **Sub-Project Code : SRI-MAG-RHF-002**
     Title : Rehabilitation and Improvement of Buluan District Hospital
     Location : Poblacion, Buluan, Maguindanao
3. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from and inspect the bidding documents at ARMM Social Fund, 3rd Floor VHW (Land Bank) Building, Veterans Avenue, Zamboanga City. Telephone Numbers: (062) 992-2684-86 & 992-2706, Fax No.: 991-9410, E-Mail: asfp@info.com.ph
4. A complete set of bidding documents in English language may be purchased by interested bidders on the submission of a written application to the address below and upon payment of non-refundable fee of Php3,500.00 or its equivalent in a fully convertible currency, for each set starting **August 4, 2004**. The method of payment will be on cash basis only.
5. Bids shall be valid for a period of one hundred twenty (120) days after bid opening and must be delivered and will be opened in the presence of the bidders' representative who choose to attend at 10:00 a.m. on **September 7, 2004** at the ASF Conference Room, 3rd Floor, VHW (Land Bank) Bldg., Veterans Avenue, Zamboanga City and must be accompanied by a minimum bid security of at least 2.5% of the total bid amount in the form of cash, certified check, or bank guarantee drawn against a Bank acceptable to the ASF to expire thirty (30) calendar days beyond bid validity.
6. Interested bidders are invited to attend a Pre-Bid Conference to be held at ASF Office on **August 17, 2004** at 9:00 A.M.
7. The ARMM Social Fund reserves the right to accept or reject any bid, and cancel the bidding process and reject all bids, at any time prior to the award of contract, without thereby incurring financial or any liability to the affected bidder or bidders of the grounds for the ARMM Social Fund's action.

Republic of the Philippines
ARMM Social Fund
3/F VHW (Land Bank) Bldg.
Veterans Ave., Zamboanga City
Tel. (062) 992-2684-86 / 992-2706
Fax (062) 991-9410
Email: asfp@info.com.ph

(Sgd.) **NAZRULLAH B. MANZUR**
Executive Director

(PDI-August 1 & 8, 2004)



HCG GALLERY IN PHILBEX 2004 CEBU

HCG Bathroom Fixtures recently joined the PhilBex 2004 Cebu Exhibit and once again bagged the Best in Booth Special Award. True to its commitment to Style and Satisfaction HCG towered among the rest in their presentation of the Zen concept. The booth showcased their new products such as: Pissarro Package, HCG Accessory Collection, U2 Package and the Legato bathtub among others. HCG's new products are now available in the 500 distribution outlets of HCG nationwide. HCG makes the high quality and leading HCG Bathroom Fixtures in the Philippines.

NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY
CENTRAL LUZON REGIONAL OFFICE
Cabanatuan City

NOTICE OF RAW SUGAR "B" AUCTION

The National Food Authority, Central Luzon Regional Office, Cabanatuan City invites all interested licensed sugar traders to participate in the auction of 8,776.82 Lkg more or less, raw sugar "B" or Domestic Sugar stored at sugar mill in the province of Tarlac, to wit:

SUGARMILL	VOLUME	INDICATIVE PRICE (P/LKG)
Central Azucarera de Tarlac	8,776.82	P 850.00

The sale shall be for the total volume and on "as-is-where-is basis." The offeror shall be required to post a bid bond equivalent to 10% of the total bid price of the volume bidded in the form of cash, and/or manager's/cashier's check payable to NFA issued by a reputable bank in the City of Tarlac.

Only prospective bidders who have submitted the following requirements to Auction Secretariat are qualified to participate:

1. Original and one (1) xerox copy of current sugar trading license/ registration
2. In case of representative, a duly notarized authorization from the Owner/Chairman certifying that the representative is presently connected with the company and authorized to represent the company to auction and other activities pertinent therein.

The auction shall be conducted at the NFA-Provincial Office, Tarlac City on the following schedule:

ACTIVITIES	DATE	TIME
1. Issuance of Bidding Documents and Tender Form	August 9-11, 2004	8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
2. Pre-Auction Conference	August 13, 2004	10:00 a.m.
3. Auction Proper	Right After the Pre Auction Conference	

The bidding documents and tender forms can be secured at the Auction Secretariat at NFA-Provincial Office, Tarlac City after paying a non-refundable registration fee of P500.00. For further inquiries, please contact the RBAC Chairman, NFA-CLRO, Cabanatuan City at Telephone Nos. (044)-463-1167, (044)-463-1168 and (044)-463-1233 or the Auction Secretariat, NFA-Provincial Office, Tarlac City at Tel. No. (045)-982-2577.

NFA reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, to waive any defects or informalities found therein and accept only such bids which in its judgment are most reasonable and advantageous to the NFA. The decision of the Committee as confirmed by the Regional Director shall be deemed final.

(Sgd.) **RUBEN J. RESIDE**
RBAC Chairman
Asst. Regional Director

(PDI – August 7 & 8, 2004)

Department of Education
DepED THIRD ELEMENTARY EDUCATION PROJECT
PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION SUPPORT UNIT
J. Alano Street, Pagadian City, Zamboanga del Sur

Bids and Awards Committee
Division of Zamboanga del Sur

Invitation for Bids (IFB)

August 8, 2004

To All Qualified Bidders:

1. The Government of the Republic of the Philippines has received a loan from the *Japan Bank for International Cooperation* towards the cost of financing the Third Elementary Education Project (TEEP) and intends to apply part of the funds to cover eligible payments for civil works component of the project. Bidding is open to all bidders from eligible source countries as defined in the *Guidelines for Procurement under Japan Bank for International Cooperation Loans.*
2. The Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the Completion of the Construction of One (1) Unit - Two (2) Storey Division Office of Zamboanga del Sur.
3. Bidding documents may be purchased at the Department of Education, Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) Secretariat with address at Pagadian City, Zamboanga del Sur for a nonrefundable fee of Php 3,000.00 for each set from **August 10 – September 7, 2004.** Interested bidders may obtain further information at the same address.
4. Bids shall be valid for a period of ninety (90) days after Bid opening and must be accompanied by a security in the amount of 2.5% of total bid price, and shall be delivered to the Bids and Awards Committee, Department of Education on or before **September 7, 2004,** 10:00 a.m., Department of Education, Pagadian City, Zamboanga del Sur.
5. A pre-bid conference will be held, be clarify all queries and questions, on August 24, 2004; 10:00 AM at the same address. Also a site visit will be conducted on the afternoon on the same date.
6. The committee reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids which may be found disadvantageous to the government.

(Sgd.) **ASDS VISMINDA G. SERRATO**
Chairperson
Bids and Awards Committee
Department of Education

Telephone No. (062) 214-4388

(PDI--Aug. 8, 2004)

NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY
Region VII, Banilad, Cebu City

NOTICE OF SALE THROUGH MARKET DETERMINED PRICING

The **NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY** (NFA), Region VII invites all interested NFA licensed grains businessmen to participate in the Sale through Market Determined Pricing (SMDP) for **17,080 bags,** more or less, of **BOC-donated Vietnam rice.** Said stock, stored at Centennial Warehouse, North Reclamation Area, Cebu City, consists of the following brands / lots:

Pile No.	Brand Name	Lot #	Inventory (bags)	Indicative Price (P/kg)
18	Peacock	1	1,175	17.00
17	Premium	2	2,364	17.00
17 & 18	Goldfish	3	5,382	17.00
18	Golden Tree	4	8,159	17.00

Sale shall be on an "as-is-where-is, no-selection, per-lot" basis. Interested parties shall submit the following documents to the SMDP Committee during the pre-SMDP Conference:

1. Certified photo copy of current NFA License / Registration;
2. Duly notarized authorization from the owner/chairman that the representative is presently connected with the firm as an official/employee/stockholder and is authorized to represent the said firm in the SMDP and other related activities; &
3. Certification from the NFA Provincial Registration and Licensing Office, duly noted by the Provincial Manager where the participant is licensed, as to his capitalization.

Offerors shall submit during the SMDP Proper their duly accomplished sealed offer form together with the SMDP bond equivalent to 10% of the total offered amount in the form of either Cash or Manager's / Cashier's Check, payable to NFA. They shall ensure that their capitalization meets their total offered amount. Adjustment is required for those awarded offerors whose capitalization falls below their total offered amount.

SMDP documents can be secured starting August 6, 2004 until 9:00 A.M. of August 11, 2004 from the SMDP Secretariat, NFA Cebu Regional Office, Banilad, Cebu City after payment of a non-refundable fee of Ps 500.00. For further information, interested parties may contact the Asst. Regional Director or the Regional Economist at telephone No. (032) 232-1939. The NFA encourages all interested offerors to conduct an ocular inspection of the subject rice stock prior to the pre-SMDP conference.

A pre-SMDP conference is set at 9:00 A.M.on August 11, 2004 at the 2nd Floor, NFA, Cebu Regional Office, Banilad, Cebu City. Submission and opening of sealed offers are scheduled immediately after the pre-SMDP Conference. In case of unsold volume, another SMDP shall be conducted on August 18, 2004 at the same time and venue and every Wednesday thereafter until all the subject stock shall have been completely disposed.

The Committee reserves the right to reject any or all offers, waive any informalities or defects found therein, and accept only such offers which are most reasonable and advantageous to the NFA. The decision of the Committee, as confirmed by the Regional Director, shall be deemed final.

(Sgd.) **ANTONIO J. ADORABLE**
Asst. Regional Director
SMDPC Chairman

(PDI – August 6, 7 & 8, 2004)

NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY
Region Office 10
Baloy, Cagayan de Oro City

NOTICE OF RAW SUGAR "B" AUCTION

The National Food Authority, Region Office 10, Baloy, Cagayan de Oro City invites all interested licensed sugar traders, industrial users and other interested buyers to participate and tender offers in the auction for the whole lot of 102,615.35 Lkg, Raw Sugar "B" or Domestic Sugar located at the following sugar mill:

LOT	PROVINCE	SUGAR MILL	QUANTITY (In Lkg)	INDICATIVE PRICE (P/Lkg)
1	Bukidnon	Crystal Milling Corporation	102,615.35	P760.00

The sale shall be for the total volume on an "as-is-where-is" and no selection basis.

All interested offerors are required to post a Bid Bond equivalent to 10% of the total amount offered in the form of Cash or PNB Demand Draft payable to NFA.

Only prospective bidders who have submitted the following requirements to the Regional Bids and Awards Committee (RBAC) prior to Auction proper are qualified to participate:

1. Original and one (1) certified photocopy of Sugar Trading License/DTI Registration/Mayor's Permit.
2. Original and one (1) certified photocopy of SEC/CDA Registration for partnership/cooperative.
3. Duly notarized Special Power of Attorney from the sole proprietor or Board Resolution from the Secretary/Chairman certifying that the representative is presently connected with the entity as an official/employee/stockholder and is authorized to represent the same in the Auction and all activities pertinent therein.

The auction shall be conducted at the NFA-10 Regional Office Conference Room, Baloy, Cagayan de Oro City on the following schedule:

ACTIVITY	DATE	TIME
Submission of Requirements	Aug. 12, 2004	8:30-10:00 A.M.
Pre-Auction Conference	Aug. 12, 2004	10:00 AM
Auction Proper will follow after the Pre-Auction Conference		

The auction terms and conditions and tender forms can be secured from the RBAC Secretariat at NFA-10; Regional Office, Baloy, Cagayan de Oro City after payment of a non-refundable bidding fee of P500.00.

The NFA reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, to waive any defects or informalities found therein and accept only such bids which in its judgement are deemed most reasonable and advantageous to the NFA.

For more details, please contact the RBAC Secretariat Head, Ms. Emma P. Asiñero at Telephone Nos. (088-22) 732215 and (088)-8552721.

(Sgd.) **CAMILO D. MAGTRAYO**
Asst. Regional Director /
RBAC-NORMIN Chairman

(PDI – August 6 & 8, 2004)

Republic of the Philippines
Center for Health Development 4
BATANGAS REGIONAL HOSPITAL
Training & Teaching
(Batangas City)

INVITATION TO BID

The Batangas Regional Hospital, Batangas City is inviting qualified suppliers, dealers and manufacturers to supply various Drugs and Medicines, Medical, Surgical, X-ray Supplies & Laboratory Reagents and supplies.

SCHEDULE OF BIDDING ACTIVITIES

DATE	ACTIVITIES
Aug. 23 to Aug. 29, 2004	Issuance of bid documents & eligibility check to qualified bidders, (Supply Office). Non-refundable Bid Form of P300.00 shall be collected from participating bidders
Sept. 23, 2004	Pre-bidding conference at the Conference Room 9:30 a.m.

BIDDING CONFERENCE SCHEDULE (BRH CONFERENCE ROOM)

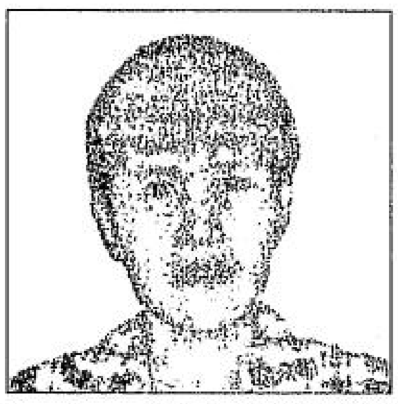
DATE	ACTIVITIES	ABC
October 7, 2004 9:30 A.M.	Drugs and Medicines	P3,000,000.00
October 8, 2004 9:30 A.M.	Medical/ surgical, x-ray supplies, & laboratory reagents and supplies	P7,500,000.00

The BRH reserves the right to reject any or all bids, without offer of any reason, waive any required formality, technicality or defect contained herein and accept an offer evaluated by the BAC as the most advantageous to the government. Further, BRH assumes no obligation to compensate or indemnify any bidder for any expenses or losses that may be incurred in the preparation of bids nor does it guarantee that any award will be made.

(Sgd.) **ARCELI S. HERNANDEZ, M.D., FPCP, MHA**
Chairman, Bids & Awards Committee

(PDI--August 8 & 15, 2004)

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC



This is to inform the public that **BELLIE DELA CRUZ** whose picture appears above is no longer employed or connected with LUX MARKETING INC. or any of its branches. Any transaction entered into by this individual with reference to LUX MARKETING, INC. shall not be honored by the company.

(PDI - Aug. 8, 2004)

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Manila Polo Club holds 2004 Club Championship

MANILA Polo Club is holding its 2004 Club Championship Tournament from July 26 to August 16. This is a 3-week long tournament intends to filter the Club's outstanding athletes in various sports such as Badminton, Bowling, Golf, Squash, Swimming and Tennis.

Culminating activity will be the formal awarding ceremony to be held during the "All Sports Grand Awards Night" on August 20. Club Champions from the 6 different sports will be honored along with Polo and Equestrian awardees. Serving as a double treat for the night is the inauguration of the club's additional International Badminton Federation (IBF)-standard badminton courts. For inquiries, please call the Sports & Games Office at 817-0951 to 62 loc. 260.

The MPC 2004 Club Championship is brought to you by ***FORD, SMART INFINITY, TAYLORMADE adidas, PLDT, VOLVO, BENCH and the PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER.***

Edge Tour Skate-Rock Festival

THOUSANDS of extreme sports enthusiasts jam-packed the Trade Hall of Metropolis Star, Alabang last June 19 and SM City Lucena Open Parking Area A last June 26 and watched with amazement as hundreds of extreme youth were seemingly warped into another world, tirelessly skating from 10am to 9pm, side by side with former Asian X-Games Finalists Geno German, Ansey Flores & Jun Castor, along with other equally intrepid and high-flying skaters of Dickies Demo Team, Malachi Riders & Pothead Team.

Capping the gigs were electrifying live performances by adrenalin rushing & hard-rocking bands Sky Church, Fuseboxx, Pigs with Pearls, Burning Bush and a host of underground acts.

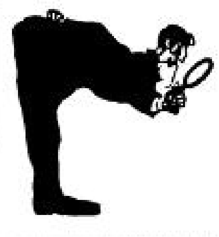
Get more details about the upcoming legs of the tour on our website, lastminuteproductions.com.ph, e-mail: raymond@lastminuteproductions.com.ph or call Raymond (02)-634-5251 or Jose (02) 498-1350.

Farmer's Edge launches new ULTIMAX line

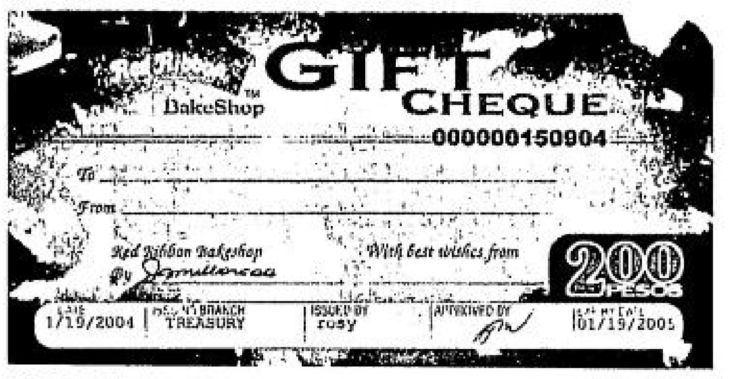
FARMER'S Edge launches the new Ultimax line - the first commercial feed with complete nutrition and formulation that would make hogs grow faster and earlier to market.

Farmer's Edge Ultimax is a product of a comprehensive study backed by US' Gray Summit Research Facility to better hog-raiser's profitability and feed performance. It is a complete line of high-density hog ration and an exceptional foundation of vital and highly absorbable nutrients that will give the highest productivity in all phases of hog growth. It guarantees superior digestion and utilization of high-quality nutrients for better feed conversion. Produced with the most advanced technology in animal nutrition, raisers are sure of more piglets per sow per year and meatier and leaner hogs with shorter days on feed.

Where you find the best.



JOB MARKET
Read it every Sunday with the Philippine Daily Inquirer.



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For the month of July, BayanTel is giving away P200.00 worth of gift certificates from Red Ribbon to subscribers just for calling their friends or relatives using BayanTel. To avail of the gift certificate, a BayanTel subscriber needs to earn a minimum P650.00 worth of calls to any cell phone or NDD calls to a landline on a BayanTel phone from July1 to July 31, 2004. To claim, just present statement of account for July 2004 with proof of payment to the customer service representative at any BayanCenter. Subscribers can redeem their Red Ribbon gift certificates until Sept. 30. So hurry call your friends and relatives and earn yourself a treat from Red Ribbon.

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GAME SCHEDULES

Badminton : July 26 - August 15
Bowling : July 31 - August 7 & 14
Golf : August 16 (at the Manila Golf Club)
Squash : July 21 - August 13
Swimming : August 14
Tennis : August 2 - August 15

Pls. contact the Sports & Games Office at 817.0951 to 62 local 260/269 for inquiries.

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PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
SUNDAY, AUGUST 8, 2004

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Day before publication

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DAVAO CITY (082) 225 0091 to 92

MESSAGE OF THANKS

The family of the late

EDEL D. DE OCAMPO Vda. de DE TORRES / GLOSS

of Tayabas, Quezon Philippines and Chicago, Illinois, U.S.A.

wish to thank all of you
who offered us comfort and help
in our hour of bereavement.
Thank you also for celebrating
the memories of the life and times
of our mom who in many ways
touched our lives forever.

"...absent with the body
to be present with the Lord"
— Corinthians 5:8

So lovingly remembered

Mayor DOMINGO B. FLORES

On his 24th Death Anniversary

Masses will be held on August 8, 2004 at the following:

Presentation of the Lord Parish *Batasan, Macabebe, Pampanga*	6:00 AM
St. Nicholas de Tolentino *Macabebe, Pampanga*	6:00 AM
St. Nicolas de Tolentino *Neptune St., Congressional Subd., Q.C.*	6:00 AM
St. Francis – Sta. Quiteria Parish *Sta. Quiteria, Baesa, Caloocan*	6:00 AM
St. Michael the Archangel Parish *Masantol, Pampanga*	5:00 AM

His family request the pious readers to pray for his soul.

Message of Thanks

For visiting us and being with us in our times of sorrow...
For praying with us, and for us...
For the Mass cards and messages of consolation and sympathy...
For the beautiful flowers to help lighten the gloomy mood...
For joining us in our nightly vigils...
For attending the Masses and funeral rites...
For thinking of us in our hour of grief...
For all that you have done and continue to do to ease our pain...

OUR HEARTFELT GRATITUDE
From the family of the late

Judge CELESTINO C. JUAN

April 03, 1910 – July 28, 2004

In Loving Memory
Fifth Death
Anniversary

FILIPINAS "Ihnas" Z. AGUILAR-ATA

Asst. City Prosecutor of Makati
August 18, 1955 - August 8, 1999.

She is remembered in all Masses today, August 8, 2004, at the National Shrine of the Sacred Heart, San Antonio, Makati City, at which she devotedly served as a Lector and Mother Butler Guild member.

Her family requests friends and relatives to include her in their prayers.

God says I will save those who love...
I will be with them...
I will save them.
(Psalm 91:14-16)

"You will show me the path to life, abounding joy in your presence, the delight at your right hand forever ..." Psalm 16:11

Message of Thanks
We, the family of the late

Julieta C. Salgado

Former Mayor of Kabankalan, Negros Occidental
Who joined her Creator on July 26, 2004
at the age of 73.

wish to express our heartfelt gratitude and sincerest appreciation to all those who offered masses and prayers, sent flowers and messages of sympathy and donations and who in countless ways, condoled with and comforted us in our hour of bereavement.

Helen Maguire Sevilla

August 3, 1919 ~ August 4, 2004

Devoted wife of the late **Alberto J. Sevilla** (†)

Beloved mother of **Teresita** (†), **Pinky**, **Chicky**, **Pee-Wee** and **Victor**, **Cecile** and **Noel**, **Titong**, and **Patricia**

Loving grandmother of **Anna** and **Dennis**, **Patrick**, **Ina**, **Francis**, **Isabel**, **Andrea**, and **Matthew**

Peacefully joined her Creator on August 4, 2004 at the age of 85.

Her remains lie in state at the Santuario de San Jose Parish, Duke St., Greenhills East, San Juan.

Interment will be at The Heritage Park, Bayani Road, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig, Metro Manila.

DOROTEO GERUNDIO LOPEZ ESPINA

Passed away in the Grace of our Lord
on August 6, 2004 at the age of 69.

His beloved wife **Mila**, children **Harold** and **Dorothy Over**, **William** and **Carmen Espina**, **Melanie** and **Antonio Alvarez**, **Robert**, **Angeli** and **Matthew Mendoza**, **Janice**; grandchildren **Chicoy**, **Miki**, **Tomas**, **Isa**, **Maki**, **Anton**, **Diggy**, **Henna**, **Marco**, **Bea**, **Migo**, **Kyla**; brothers and sister; nephews and nieces; relatives and friends request your prayers for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at Sta. Monica, Puerto Princesa City.

Interment to be announced later.

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life."
- John 3:16

MATILDE GARCIA BALSITA

of San Juan La Union and Singalong, Manila

Peacefully joined her Creator on August 4, 2004
at the age of 97.

Widow of the late **Alberto R. Balsita** of San Juan La Union. Ladies Auxiliary Fleet Reserve Association Branch 82.

Her daughter **Consuelo**, grandchildren **Albert & Cecile**, **Mars & Marian**, **Noli & Vicky**, **Jerry & Memang**, great-grandchildren, **Jude**, **Katrina**, **Andreas**, **Iki Boy**, **Glen**, **Jasmin & Christian**.

The Garcia, Reyes, Restituto and Baniqued families, nieces, nephews, relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at the Sacred Heart Chapel, National Shrine of The Sacred Heart, Dau St., Kamagong, Makati City.

Interment will be on Tuesday, August 10, 2004 after the 8:00 a.m. Mass at the Manila Memorial Park, Parañaque.

CARD OF THANKS

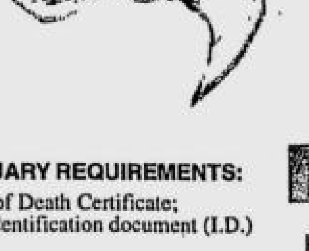
ARTURO D. TOLENTINO, JR., MD., LL.B., B.S. (Chairman Emeritus & Medico Legal Consultant of the EAMC department of pathology and Executor of the Last Will and Testament of the deceased)
EVELYN TOLENTINO-MENDOZA
JENNIFER F. RAMIREZ (only daughter of deceased **ANNABELLE TOLENTINO-FERRER**)
BERNARDITA TOLENTINO – GABRIEL, M.D.
ATTY. SALVADOR C. TOLENTINO
VICTORIO C. TOLENTINO
ATTY. ELENITA TOLENTINO-ADRIANO

Wish to express their gratitude to all those who condoled with them during the wake and at the funeral rites of their late beloved father

ARTURO M. TOLENTINO

(September 19, 1910 – August 2, 2004)
FORMER CONGRESSMAN & SENATOR
FORMER SENATE PRESIDENT
FORMER VICE-PRESIDENT

The readers are requested to continue to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.



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❶ Copy of Death Certificate;
❷ Any identification document (I.D.)

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Inq7 sponsors Soho Fair

THE COUNTRY'S most visited and most awarded news website, INQ7 sponsors the first Philippine Small Office and Home Office (Soho) Fair happening in the Megatrade Hall 2, Megamall from Aug. 27 to 29. The availability of infrastructure that supports telecommunication and the growing desire of people to stay at home drive the growth of Soho. Inq7 recognizes this key trend happening worldwide. Events organizers Protégé conceptualized Soho fair to be comprehensive, one-stop-shop for individuals who want to start or is already running their own home office. The trade fair gathers not just suppliers of small office home office like personal computers, ISPs, printers, facsimile and photocopying machines, but also financing companies, interior designers, training schools and government offices. There will also be talks to help home-based workers starts and grow their business. For participation details, contact Protégé, Inc. at 637-6979 or 6383219, or access rubycomm.com/protégé_soho.

Cooking demo

IS COOKING your hobby? Why not turn your culinary skills into profit as the San Miguel Pure Foods Culinary Center invites you to "Cooking Up A Catering Biz", a free cooking demonstration sharing trade secrets on how to be a successful caterer with Makati Skyline owner Erlinda Sunico. With 25 years of successful catering experience, learn from Sunico recipes fit for catering and tips on how to effectively start up and manage a catering business on Aug. 28, (Saturday) from 1 to 4:30 p.m. at the San Miguel Head Office Cafeteria, #40 San Miguel Avenue, Ortigas Center, Mandaluyong (across SM Mega Mall). Just bring in any 3 empty assorted wrappers of Magnolia, Purefoods-Hormel, Magnolia Chicken, or Monterey products. For inquiries, call Rachelle or Rowena at 671-9876 locals 2771 and 402.

Preschool circle confab

THE ASIAN Psychological Services and Assessment Corp (Apsa), in its aim to respond to the emerging issues of early childhood education will sponsor the 2nd Annual Convention of the Preschool Circle of the Philippines set on Aug. 20 at the Metropolitan Club Inc, Makati City. With the theme "Language Proficiency through Early Literacy Development, the convention will focus on enhancing language proficiency and effective Early Literacy Program. Topics to be discussed are: The Essentials of Developing the Communication in Early Childhood, The Targets of Language Acquisition, Learning Outcomes in Language Acquisition, The Rigors of Testing in Early Childhood and Constructing Standards-Based Assessment in Early Childhood. For more details, contact Apsa at (632) 527-7238, (632) 525-7277 or (632) 525-7336 and look for Ciel, Teng, Nette or Coy. You may also email at apsa1688@info.com.ph.

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8	IMELDA
9	GARFIELD
10	CATWOMAN
11	AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS
12	ETERNAL SUNSHINE...

SM CITY FAIRVIEW 9350749

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3	AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS
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8	GARFIELD
9	ELLA ENCHANTED
10	KING ARTHUR
11	SPIDERMAN 2
12	ETERNAL SUNSHINE....

SM CITY MANILA 5238240

1	I, ROBOT
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4	GARFIELD
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8	ALONG CAME POLLY
9	CATWOMAN
10	LIBERATED 2
11	DEAD PEOPLE
12	ELLA ENCHANTED

SM CITY NORTH EDSA 9295452

1	I, ROBOT
2	ELLA ENCHANTED
3	DEAD PEOPLE
4	KING ARTHUR
5	GARFIELD
6	ETERNAL SUNSHINE...
7	CATWOMAN
8	COLLATERAL

SM CITY STA. MESA 7149522 • 7161416

1	I, ROBOT
2	ETERNAL SUNSHINE...
3	GARFIELD
4	IMELDA
5	COLLATERAL
6	AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS
7	CATWOMAN
8	KING ARTHUR
9	ELLA ENCHANTED
10	DEAD PEOPLE

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1	GARFIELD
2	CATWOMAN
3	DEAD PEOPLE
4	I, ROBOT

North

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1	I, ROBOT
2	ELLA ENCHANTED
3	WEREWOLF (GINGERSNAPS 2)
4	CATWOMAN

SM CITY PAMPANGA 7128015

1	CATWOMAN
2	GARFIELD
3	I, ROBOT
4	WEREWOLF (GINGERSNAPS 2)
5	ELLA ENCHANTED
6	AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS

SM CITY BAGUIO (074) 4464505

1	CATWOMAN
2	ELLA ENCHANTED
3	PRINCE & ME
4	COLLATERAL

South

SM CITY LAS PIÑAS 8065888

1	ETERNAL SUNSHINE
2	ELLA ENCHANTED
3	GARFIELD THE MOVIE
4	COLLATERAL
5	AROUND THE WORLD
6	KING ARTHUR
7	CATWOMAN
8	COLLATERAL
9	I, ROBOT
10	IMELDA

SM CITY BICUTAN 7763055

1	COLLATERAL
2	GARFIELD
3	CATWOMAN
4	I, ROBOT

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1	GARFIELD
2	I, ROBOT
3	CATWOMAN
4	DEAD PEOPLE

SM CITY BACOOR (046)4173858

1	WEREWOLF (GINGERSNAPS 2)
2	ETERNAL SUNSHINE
3	CATWOMAN
4	ELLA ENCHANTED
5	GARFIELD
6	I, ROBOT
7	BEAUTIFUL LIFE
8	KING ARTHUR

SM CITY DASMA (046) 4323201-04

1	around the world in 80 days
2	GARFIELD
3	COLLATERAL
4	CATWOMAN

SM CITY LUCENA (042) 7108977-80

1	CATWOMAN
2	AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS
3	MEAN GIRLS
4	KING ARTHUR

Visayas & Mindanao

SM CITY CEBU (032) 2313876

1	I, ROBOT
2	KING ARTHUR
3	GARFIELD
4	PRINCE & ME
5	ELLA ENCHANTED
6	THE CURSED
7	COLLATERAL
8	CATWOMAN

SM CITY ILOILO (033) 3209422

1	WEREWOLF (GINGERSNAPS 2)
2	RESERVED
3	KING ARTHUR
4	COLLATERAL
5	AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS
6	CATWOMAN
7	RESERVED
8	I, ROBOT

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1	WHOLE 10 YARDS
2	BULLET
3	DIRTY DANCING: HAVANA KNIGHTS
4	CATWOMAN
5	ELLA ENCHANTED
6	COLLATERAL

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1	AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS
2	CATWOMAN
3	IMELDA
4	KING ARTHUR

—THE— PODIUM CINEMA

1
COLLATERAL
11:50 FS/12:20
MF/3:00/5:40/8:20/10:25
LFS/11:00 LMF/1:05 END

2
GARFIELD
10:50 FS/11:20
MF/1:15/3:10/5:05/7:00/
8:55/10:20 LFS/
10:50 LMF/12:15 END

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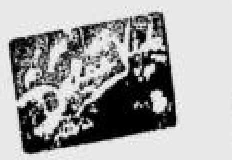

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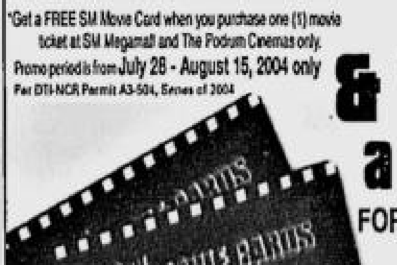
Per DTI-NCR Permit A3-504, Series of 2004



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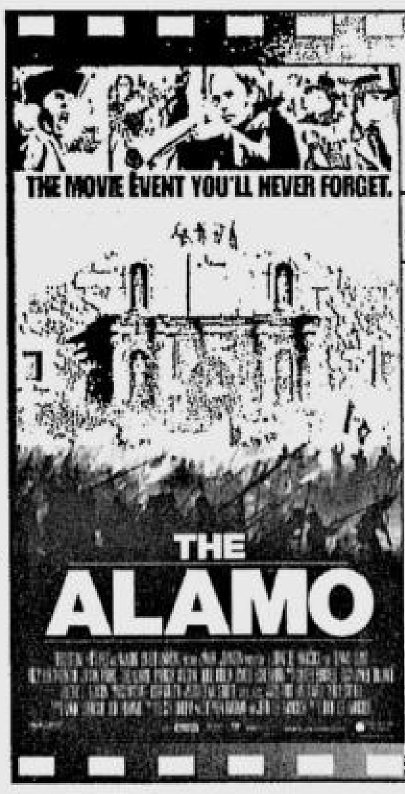
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USA

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MOVIE GUIDE

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2 (DOLBY)	COLLATERAL R-13 / FS : 11:20 PM, 2:00 PM, 4:40 PM, 7:20 PM, LMF : 10:00 PM
3 (DOLBY)	CATWOMAN FS : 12:50 PM, 3:05 PM, 5:20 PM, 7:35 PM, LMF : 9:50 PM
4 (DOLBY)	SOON TO OPEN

PREMIERE

(DOLBY)	COLLATERAL R-13 / FS : 10:45 AM, 1:25 PM, 4:05 PM, 6:45 PM, LMF : 9:25 PM

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1	RESERVE
2	PERLAS
3	MAKAMUDO
4 (SDDS)	LIBERATED - 2
5	GARFIELD
6 (DOLBY)	CATWOMAN
7 (DTS)	COLLATERAL
8	RESERVE
9	RESERVE

Masagana CINEMA
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1	MAKAMUDO
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3	CATWOMAN

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2	RESERVE
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5	MAKAMUDO

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1	CATWOMAN
2	MAKAMUDO
3	I - ROBOT
4	KING ARTHUR
5 (DOLBY)	COLLATERAL
6	GARFIELD

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2	

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1 (DDS)	COLLATERAL
2 (SDDS)	SPIDERMAN - 2
3 (DTS)	GARFIELD
4 GOLD (DTS)	I - ROBOT
5 GOLD (DOLBY)	CATWOMAN
6 GOLD (SDDS)	COLLATERAL
7 GOLD (DOLBY)	ELLA ENCHANTED
8	DEAD PEOPLE
9	ETERNAL SUNSHINE
10	KING ARTHUR

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3 (Dolby)	GARFIELD
4 (SDDS)	COLLATERAL
5 (DTS)	CATWOMAN
6 (Dolby)	DEAD PEOPLE
7 (Dolby)	ETERNAL SUNSHINE

MARKETPLACE
Mandaluyong
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1	CATWOMAN
2	GARFIELD
3	MAKAMUNDO
4	

Jade Cinema
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1 (DOLBY EX)	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
2	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
3 (DTS EX)	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
4	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION

Cine Nepo
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887.0121

1	BEAUTIFUL LIFE
2	PRINCE & ME
3 (DOLBY)	CATWOMAN
4 (DTS)	GARFIELD

Cine Nepo
(Dagupan City) tel (075) 515.8489

1	BEAUTIFUL LIFE
2	JERSEY GIRLS
3 (DOLBY)	ALONG CAME POLLY
4 (DTS)	I - ROBOT

Centre Plaza Cinema
(Balanga, Bataan) tel (047) 237.7007

1	KILL BILL - 2
2	BEAUTIFUL LIFE

EASTWOOD CINEMAS
(Eastwood City Walk 2, Eastwood City E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave (C-5) Quezon City)
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1 (DOLBY)	COLLATERAL
2 (DOLBY)	COLLATERAL
3 (DOLBY)	GARFIELD
4 (DOLBY)	CATWOWAN

CINEMA 2000
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Cinema 2000 Target Mall
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1	COLLATERAL
2	PERLAS
3 (DTS)	CATWOMAN

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
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1	ALONG CAME POLLY
2 (DTS)	PRINCE & ME
3 (DOLBY)	COLLATERAL
4	CATWOMAN

Cinema 2000 Pavilion Mall
(Biñan) tel (049) 411.1146

1	ALONG CAME POLLY
2 (DOLBY)	COLLATERAL
3 (DTS)	CATWOMAN
4	WEREWOLF (GINGER SNAP-2)

Cinema 2000 Cinemagix
(Urdaneta) tel(075) 568.6771

1	KING ARTHUR
2	BEAUTIFUL LIFE
3 (DOLBY)	I - ROBOT

Cinema 2000 Metrotown
(Tarlac) tel (045) 982.1729

1	BEAUTIFUL LIFE
2	PRINCE & ME
3 (DOLBY)	KING ARTHUR
4 (DTS)	I - ROBOT

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Plaridel) tel (044) 795.3327

1	I - ROBOT
2	ALONG CAME POLLY
3 (DOLBY)	CATWOMAN

Lianas Cinema
(Alabang) tel 850.1276

1 (SDDS)	KING ARTHUR
2	MAKAMUNDO
3	IMELDA
4 (DTS)	100 GIRLS

Lianas MovieCity
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7202

1 (DOLBY)	COLLATERAL
2	IMELDA
3 (DTS)	CATWOMAN
4	PRINCE & ME
5	WEREWOLF (GINGER SNAP - 2)

Mega Center Mall
(Cabanatuan City) tel (044) 463.3283

1	RESERVED
2	KILL BILL - 2
3 (DTS)	CATWOMAN
4 (DOLBY)	RESERVED

Fiesta World Mall
(Lipa) tel (043) 981.0790

1	BEAUTIFUL LIFE
2	ALONG CAME POLLY
3	AROUND THE WORLD
4	CATWOMAN

Berma Cinema
(Baclaran) tel 879.2030 / 879.2029

1	MAKAMUNDO
2	I - ROBOT

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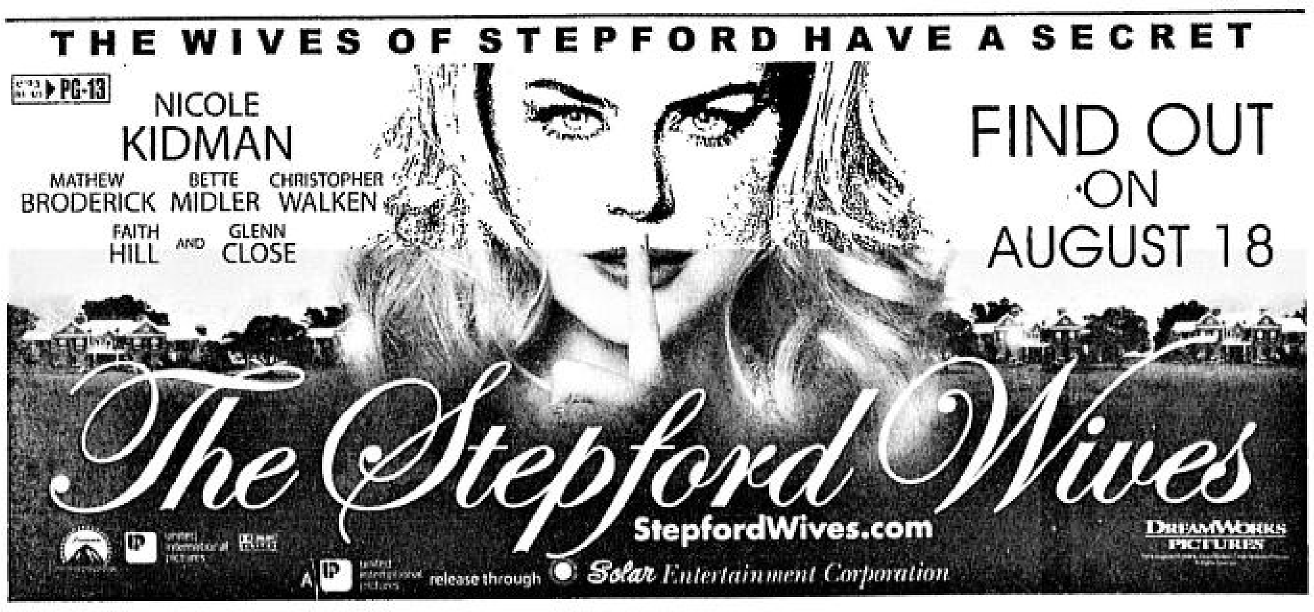
MOVIES / SCHEDULES / PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

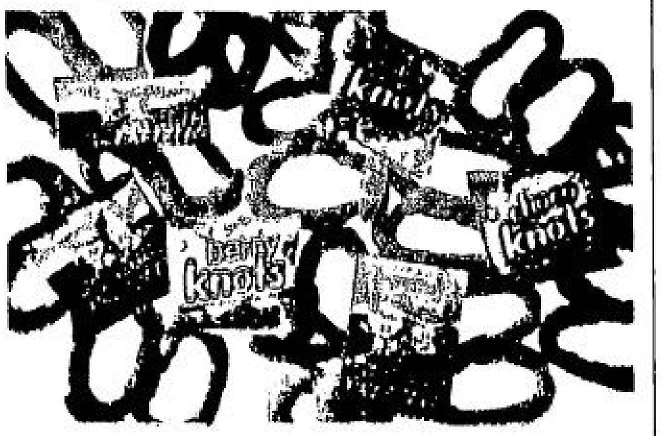
'Lobster Specials' at Summer Palace

EDSA Shangri-La, Manila's Summer Palace presents Chinese cuisine at its finest with "Lobster Specials" from Aug. 2 to 13. This seafood delicacy called the "Cardinal of the Seas", is highly popular because of its white, dense-textured and flavorful meat. Available for lunch and dinner are cold lobster salad, baked lobster in superior stock, lobster congee, lobster with dried shrimps, suateed lobster in a variety of sauces such as garlic, X.O., and dried chili. Summer Palace is located at the Mezzanine of Edsa Shangri-La, Manila. For inquiries and reservations, call 633-8888 extensions 2738 and 2739.

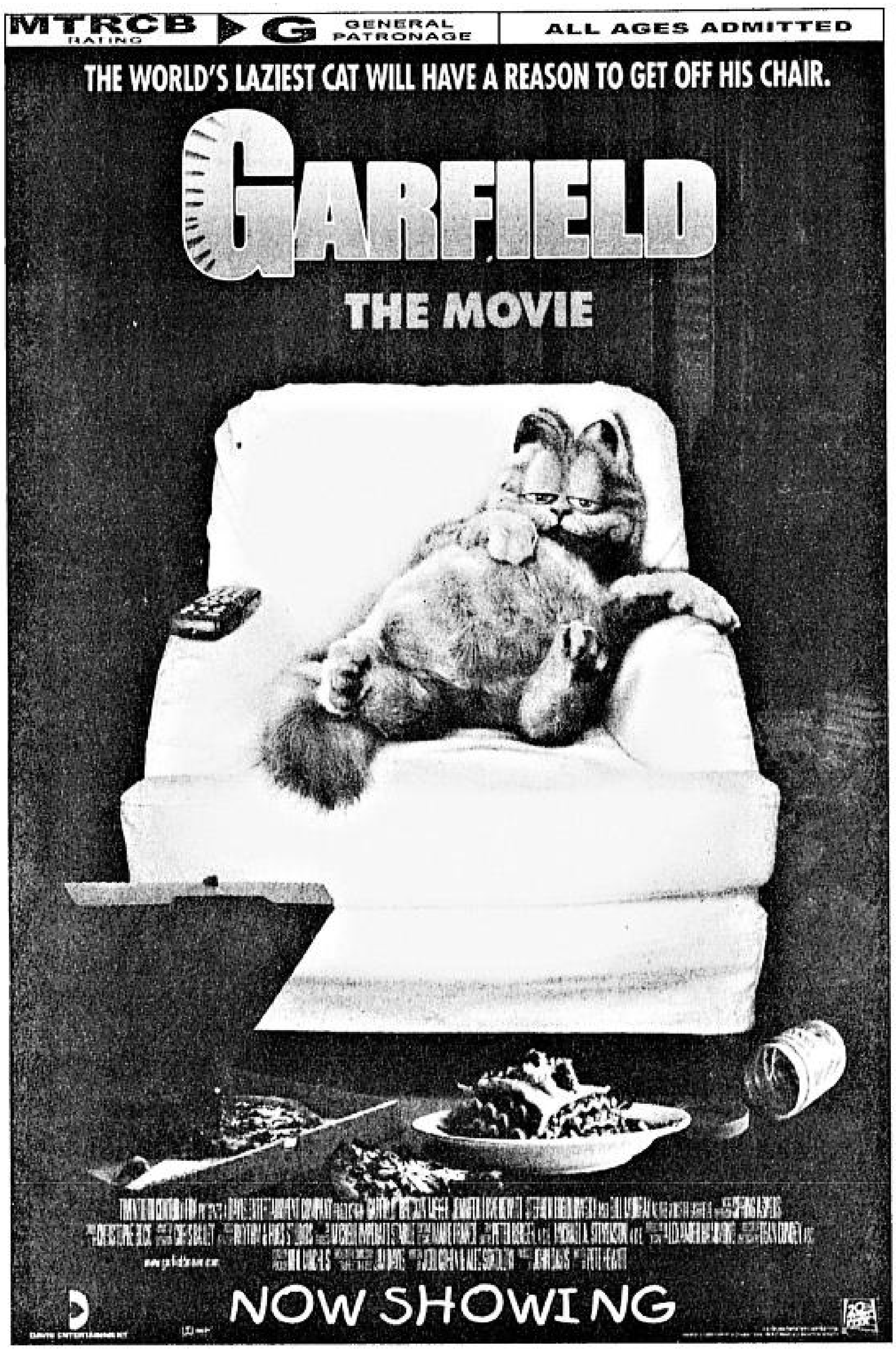

THE WIVES OF STEPFORD HAVE A SECRET
PG-13
NICOLE KIDMAN
MATHEW BRODERICK
BETTE MIDLER
CHRISTOPHER WALKEN
FAITH HILL AND GLENN CLOSE
FIND OUT ON AUGUST 18
The Stepford Wives
StepfordWives.com
DREAMWORKS PICTURES
release through Solar Entertainment Corporation

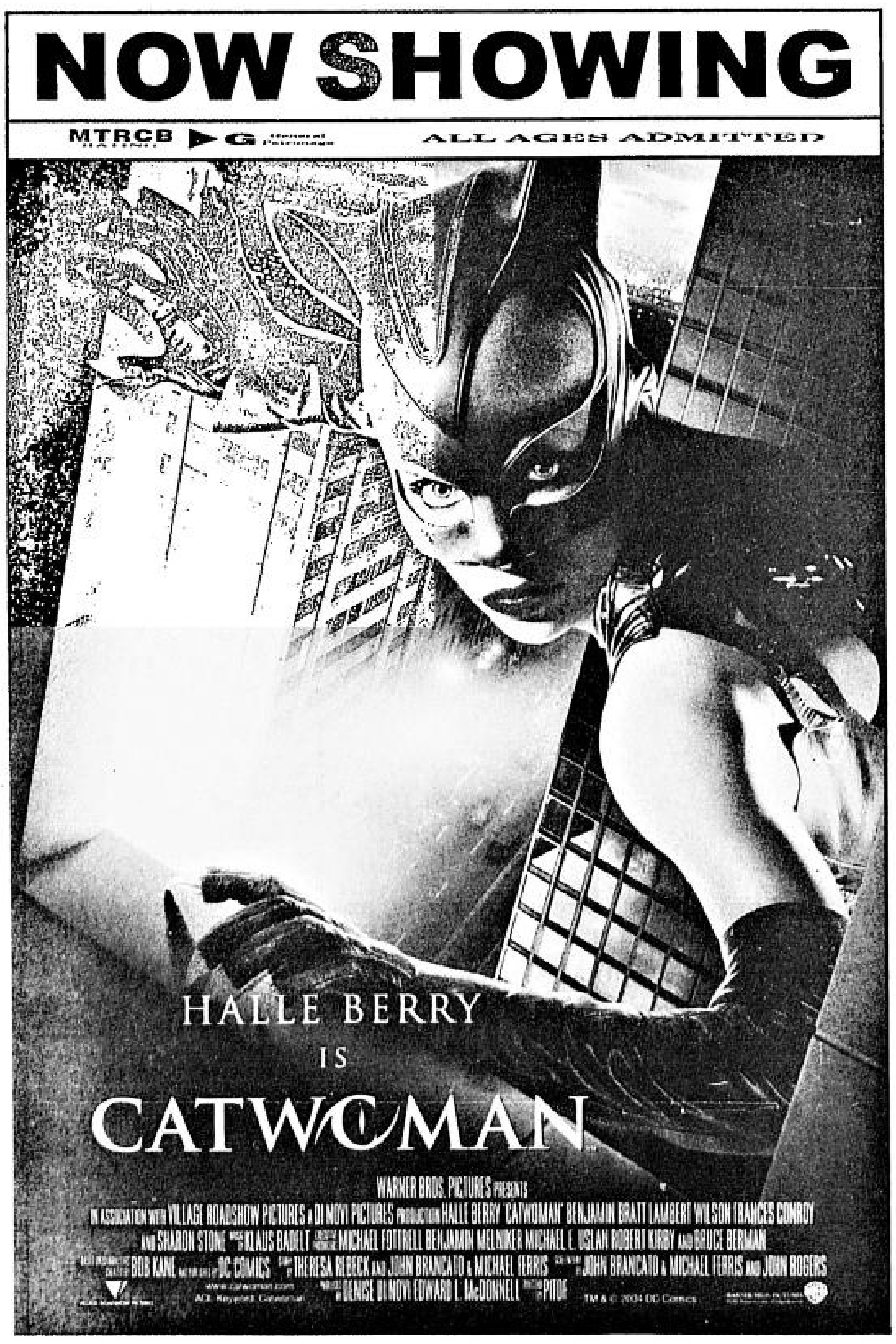
Product FILES

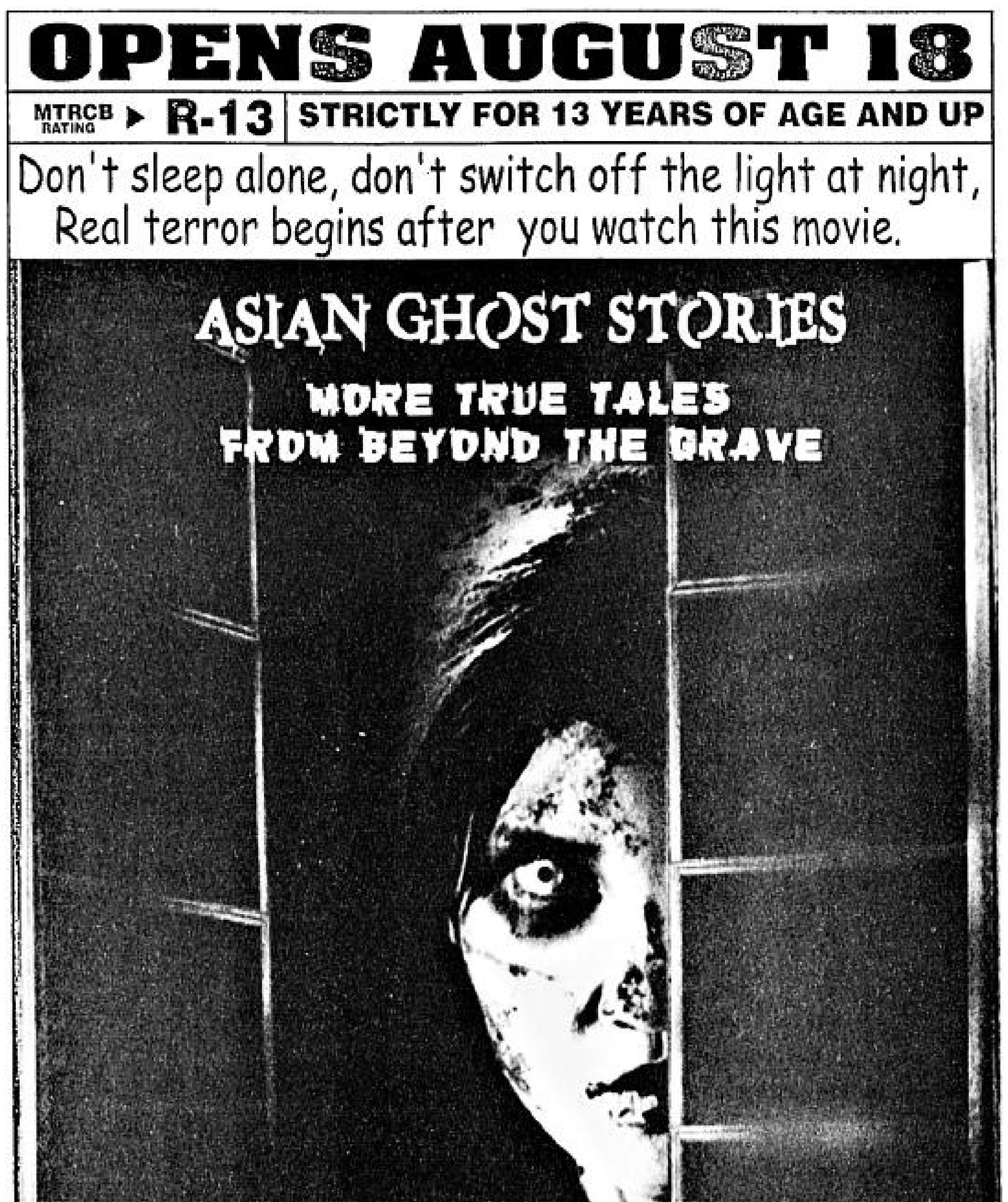
A fun pretzel world with Jack n' Jill


berry knots
choco knots

SINCE the 1970's, Jack 'n Jill Pretzels have been a big favorite among Filipinos, whether kids or kids-at-heart. Pretzels now come in different varieties. But coated hard pretzels, like Jack 'n Jill Choco Knots, remain to be a best-seller among kids. The funky pretzel shape brings fun to every snack time. And there are other pretzel goodies from Universal Robina Corporation: Berry Knots with its strawberry sweetness; new Milky Knots with healthy milk in every crunchy bite; and Jack 'n Jill Pretzel sticks, for a no-nonsense chocolate delight. Snack on Jack 'n Jill Knots and Pretzel sticks during recess, while watching TV and even while making your homework. You'll never get bored with its delightfully crunchy taste. Because it's always a fun pretzel world with Jack n' Jill.


MTRCB RATING G GENERAL PATRONAGE
ALL AGES ADMITTED
THE WORLD'S LAZIEST CAT WILL HAVE A REASON TO GET OFF HIS CHAIR.
GARFIELD
THE MOVIE
NOW SHOWING
DAVIS ENTERTAINMENT


NOW SHOWING
MTRCB RATING G General Patronage
ALL AGES ADMITTED
HALLE BERRY
IS
CATWOMAN
WARNER BROS. PICTURES PRESENTS
IN ASSOCIATION WITH VILLAGE ROADSHOW PICTURES A DI NOVI PICTURES PRODUCTION HALLE BERRY "CATWOMAN" BENJAMIN BRATT LAMBERT WILSON FRANCES CONROY
AND SHARON STONE KLAUS BADELT MICHAEL FOTTRELL BENJAMIN MELNIKER MICHAEL E. USLAN ROBERT KIRBY AND BRUCE BERMAN
BOB KANE DC COMICS THERESA REBECK AND JOHN BRANCATO & MICHAEL FERRIS JOHN BRANCATO & MICHAEL FERRIS AND JOHN ROGERS
www.catwoman.com
DENISE DI NOVI EDWARD L. McDONNELL PITOF
TM & © 2004 DC Comics


OPENS AUGUST 18
MTRCB RATING R-13
STRICTLY FOR 13 YEARS OF AGE AND UP
Don't sleep alone, don't switch off the light at night,
Real terror begins after you watch this movie.
ASIAN GHOST STORIES
MORE TRUE TALES FROM BEYOND THE GRAVE
BANGKOK HAUNTED 2
the unborn

SM CINEMA

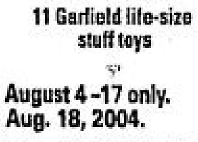
Watch Garfield at SM Cinema for a chance to take him home with you!

Just purchase a Garfield movie ticket from any of our participating outlets*, to get 1 SM Coupon with a unique 6-digit text code ranging from 100001 to 500000. Mobile subscribers** must affix a signature to the SM coupon after sending out text codes.

To join the promo, text SM (text code) (name) (full address) and send it to 239. Upon keying in the SM code, you will receive a text message confirming your receipt of the raffle entry *PLUS*, one GARFIELD logo for **FREE!**

Win these fantastic prizes up for grabs, exclusively at SM Cinemas!

(10) Nokia 3100



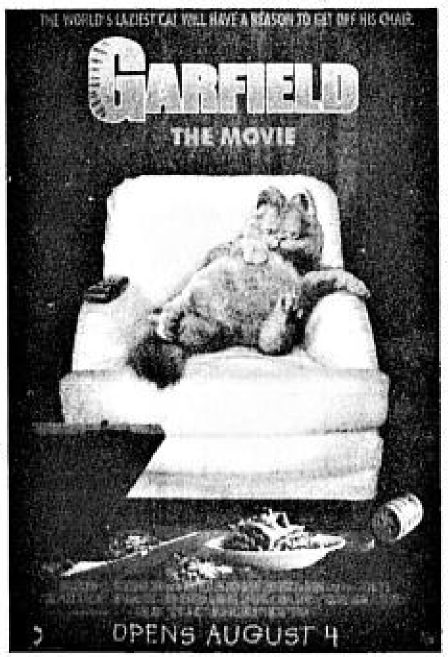
11 Garfield life-size stuff toys

Promo period is from August 4 -17 only.
Grand Draw is on Aug. 18, 2004.

*Participating branches: Bacoor, Bicutan, Fairview, Manila, Megamall, North Edsa, Sta.Mesa, Southmall, Sucat, Tutuban, Dasmariñas, Cavite, Pampanga and Cebu.

**This promo is exclusive to Smart Kid, Gold, Buddy, Infinity, Addict and Talk 'n Text Subscribers and SM Cinema moviegoers only

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1491, Series of 2004


now showing
THE WORLD'S LAZIEST CAT WILL HAVE A REASON TO GET OFF HIS CHAIR.
GARFIELD
THE MOVIE
OPENS AUGUST 4

MTRCB Rating . G

DIAL 8339999 for screening schedules

KEEP WATCHING GARFIELD

Buy 4 tickets to see the movie, Garfield to get exciting premium giveaways such as 1 mini-poster of Garfield, 1 storyland coupons* and 1 FREE one hour ice time coupons*.

Promo period is on August 4, 7 and 8, 2004 at the following SM Branches: Megamall, North Edsa, Southmall, Manila, Sta Mesa, Fairview, Bacoor, Sucat, Bicutan, Tutuban, Dasmarinas, Pampanga and Cebu.

*These premium item giveaways are available at all SM Cinema branches except Pampanga, Cebu, Baguio, Lucena, Iloilo, Davao Cagayan de Oro and Marilao

See flyers for details.

Give the Gift of Entertainment. Give the SM Movie Cards.
Get Complimentary Passes when you buy in bulk. For orders, call 831-7000 local 2680 to 2682.

E-Media at Manila Int'l Book Fair

THE 25TH Manila International Book Fair, the premier event in the book publishing industry, welcomes as its special guest E-Media, ABS-CBN's series of educational children's TV programs. E-Media will air its shows at the MIBF, which is slated on Aug. 11 to 15 at the World Trade Center Manila, Roxas Blvd., Pasay City. In celebration of ABS-CBN Foundation's 10th anniversary, E-Media will air the best episodes of such award-winning edu-tainment programs such as "Hiraya Manawari", "Pahina", "Detek-Kids", and "Bayani" right at the fair from Aug. 11 to 14. This special screening gives more children the opportunity to enjoy and learn more about Filipino values and literary works, Philippine history and heroes. It also encourages kids to develop critical thinking skills through fun and challenging exercises. Elementary and high school classes are invited to attend the screening. For inquiries and seat reservations, contact Maricar Estrabo or Dyan Dela Cruz of the MIBF secretariat at 895-2966 or 896-0661. The 25th Manila International Book Fair is organized by Primetrade Asia Inc, and sponsored by the Philippine Daily Inquirer, the Manila Bulletin, AudioVoca, Chase Technologies Corp, MSA Math Tutoring Center, 103.5 K-Lite, 93.9 IFM, magic 89.9, NU 107, Joey@Rhythms 92.3, and RJ 100.

Education Tech Int'l

THE EDUCATION Tech International, which will be held from Aug. 12 to 14 at the Philippine Trade Training Center is the catalyst for innovation in modern education featuring the most informed and technology advanced learning institutions and related products and services providers. The 3-day event is managed and organized by Edutech & Services Corp. Edutech is a member of the Association of Professional Congress/Exhibition Organizers and Suppliers Philippines Inc (Apceos). Education Tech special events complementing this affair include Inter-School Techno-Quiz, Safety @ School Info Center, PET Bottle and Waste Paper Recycling Programs, and the "Technobility" little expo and seminars as you enjoy one-on-one visibility to thousands of concerned individuals. Register now. Call Edutech at (632) 651-1749, 0920-211-9559, fax 451-0945 or email edutech@mla.nsclub.net.

Bits & Clips

Unap leads celebration of IYD in RP

IN CELEBRATION of Aug. 12 as International Youth Day, the United Nations Association of the Philippines (Unap) will hold the 5th International Youth Conference (IYC) with the theme, "Empowering Tomorrow's Global Citizens Today" from Aug. 12 to 14 at Philippine Normal University (PNU), Asian Social Institute (ASI), Wesleyan College of Manila and exposure to communities. Conference delegates will attend various plenary and concurrent sessions and workshops and exposure to community on Eight Millennium Development Goals (MDG) and UN World Programme of Action for Youth such as good governance, environment, poverty and hunger, peace and human rights education. The youth delegates will draft a framework of action to mobilize the youth to attain the millennium targets in the local schools and communities. Student delegates to the forthcoming International Conference at the UN headquarters on the theme, "Millennium Development Goals: Civil Society Takes Action", Sept. 8 to 10 will be chosen from the active student delegates. Interested students and youth leaders may contact Delan Ajero, convenor of the 5th IYC c/o Asian Social Institute at 523-8265 loc. 102 or 0919-422-7415 or professor Arthur Abulencia, co-convenor of the 5th IYC c/o PNU Center for Linkages and Extension Services at 632-527 0367 or 0920-585-4253. For more details visit the website at www.iyd2004.org.

Araneta Center ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

ALI MALL CINEPLEX

3	Dolby COLLATERAL	10:00 am 12:40 pm 3:25 pm 6:10 pm 8:55 pm
4	SDDS GARFIELD	12:25 pm 2:35 pm 4:45 pm 6:55 pm 9:05 pm
5	dts CATWOMAN	12:00 nn 2:15 pm 4:30 pm 6:45 pm 9:00 pm
6	Dolby ETERNAL SUNSHINE	11:35 am 1:55 pm 4:15 pm 6:35 pm 8:55 pm
7	Dolby DEAD PEOPLE	1:55 pm 4:15 pm 6:35 pm 8:55 pm

NEW FIESTA CARNIVAL

OPEN TODAY 4 PM to 10 PM

ARANETA COLISEUM

Aug 8	UAAP: F E U vs. Ateneo
Aug 12	UAAP: 2nd Round Games
Aug 13	NIGHT OF THE CHAMPIONS THE REPEAT
Aug 14	UAAP: 2nd Round Games
Aug 15	CCF Worship Service

For tickets, call TicketNet at 911-5555

THEATER MOVIE GUIDE

MANILA

EASTERN	
MAXIM	CLOSED
MIRAMAR	SEX BOMB / RAMPADORA
ODEON	X-MEN 2
ODEON-2	BUKID AY BASA / KASIBULAN
ROBEN	BOLD STAR
TANDEM-1	SUGAT
TANDEM-2	KATAWAN MO LANGIT KO
TIMES	SPY / LEGEND OF CROCODILE

QUEZON CITY

ACT-1	SENSUAL ISLAND
ACT-2	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
ACT-3	ORIGINAL SIN
ACT-4	HANGGANG KAILAN KA PAPATAY
CORONET A	MAKAMUNDO
CORONET B	A MAN APART
QUEZON-1	BERTUD NG PUTIK
REMAR	X-MEN 2
REMAR-2	BOLD STAR

NOVA MALL - NOVALICHES CINEMA

A	MAKAMUNDO
B	CLOSED
C	

MANDALUYONG CITY

SHANGRI-LA PLAZA MALL	635-20-79 / 633-78-51 TO 70
CINEMA 1, 2, & 3	GARFIELD / COLLATERAL / CATWOMAN
PREMIERE THEATRE	COLLATERAL

CAINTA RIZAL

STA. LUCIA EAST	(681-5401 TO 19)
CINEMA-1	GHOST HOUSE (RE-ISSUE)
CINEMA-2	PERLAS
CINEMA-3	SPIDERMAN 2
CINEMA-4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	I ROBOT
CINEMA-5 (DTS)	PRINCE & ME
CINEMA-6	KILL BILL VOL. 2
CINEMA-7	WEREWOLF
CINEMA-8	LIBERATED 2
CINEMA-9 (DTS)	I ROBOT
CINEMA-10 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	I ROBOT
CINEMA-11 (SDDS)	SPIDERMAN 2
CINEMA-12	KING ARTHUR
CINEMA-14	ALONG CAME POLLY
CINEMA-15	AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS

LORES

CINEMA-2	SENSUAL ISLAND
CINEMA-3	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT

NE CINEMAGIC - CABANATUAN

(LAS PIÑAS)	SPIDERMAN 2
CINEMA-1	LADY KILLERS
CINEMA-2	I ROBOT
CINEMA-4	RESERVED

UNIWIDE COASTAL MALL

(PARAÑAQUE)	SENSUAL ISLAND
CINEMA-1	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
CINEMA-2	MEN IN BLACK II
CINEMA-4	SELDA

EASTWOOD CINEMAS

Eastwood City Walk 2, Eastwood City
E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave. (C-5) Quezon City

DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND-EX

For inquiries, call:
687-6963
GUARANTEED SEATS
MOVIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

1	COLLATERAL	1:25, 4:10, 6:55, 10:00	R-13
2	COLLATERAL	11:00, 1:55, 4:45, 7:25, 10:20	R-13
3	GARFIELD	11:05, 1:15, 3:25 5:35, 7:45, 10:00	GP
4	CATWOMAN	11:45, 2:25, 4:55, 7:30, 10:30	GP

POWER PLANT CINEMA

Rockwell Center, Makati City ☎ Tel. No: 8981440-41 DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND-EX

ETERNAL SUNSHINE R13 12:50,3:05,5:20,7:35,9:50	GARFIELD GP 1:20,3:30,5:40,7:50,10:00	GARFIELD GP 12:50,3:00,5:10,7:20,9:30
COLLATERAL R13 1:35,4:10,6:45,9:20	CATWOMAN GP 12:50,3:10,5:30,7:50,10:10	COLLATERAL R13 12:10,2:45,5:20,7:55,10:30

MATINEE P80.00 - FREE SEATING - SCREENINGS BEFORE 5 PM - MON. TO FRI.

THEATRE MALL GREENHILLS

a landmark reinvented!

DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND-EX

NOW SHOWING

CINEMA 1 — **COLLATERAL** 11:05, 1:55, 4:40, 7:25, 10:10 **R13**

CINEMA 2 — **GARFIELD** 11:00, 1:10, 3:20, 5:30, 7:40, 10:00 **GP**

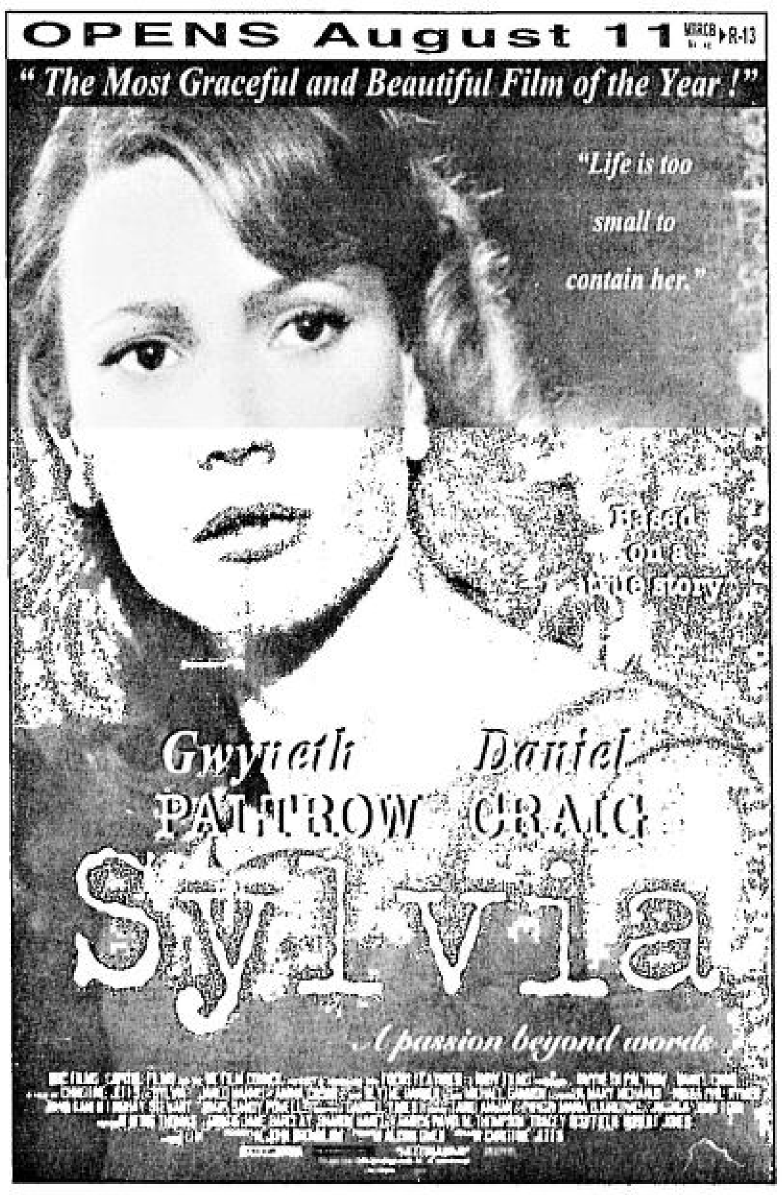
TICKET PRICES & SCREENING TIME SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.
GREENHILLS SHOPPING CENTER, ORTIGAS AVENUE, GREENHILLS, SAN JUAN, METRO MANILA • 7224496

MUSIC MUSEUM

AUG 10-11, 17-18, 24-25 & 31	NOAH SBIGBOAT	10AM & 2PM
AUG 13-14 20-21 & 27-28	NYOYVOLANTE & NINA	9:00 PM

FOR INQUIRIES & RESERVATION, PLS. CALL: 721-6726 OR 721-0635.

MTRCB ▶ PG-13
WILL SMITH
I, ROBOT
THREE LAWS PROTECT US FROM THEM.. BUT LAWS ARE MADE TO BE BROKEN.
NOW SHOWING


OPENS August 11 MTRCB ▶ R-13
" The Most Graceful and Beautiful Film of the Year ! "
"Life is too small to contain her."
Based on a true story
Gwyneth PALTROW
Daniel CRAIG
Sylvia
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TOP MOVIE THEATER

Annual National Consumer's Quality Award 2003 — Family Consumers Choice Award 2003

NOW SHOWING

GALLERIA

632-9115 to 16

Cinema	Movie	Times
CINEMA 1 THX	COLLATERAL	11:20, 2:00, 4:40, 7:20, 10:00
2	COLLATERAL	10:50, 1:30, 4:10, 6:50, 9:30
3	IMELDA	10:45, 1:00, 3:15, 5:30, 7:45, 10:00
4	ETERNAL SUNSHINE	10:20, 12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10.00
5	GARFIELD	11:10, 1:20, 3:30, 5:40, 7:50, 10:00
6	ALONG CAME POLLY	10:30, 12:40, 2:50, 5:40, 7:40, 9:40
7	DEAD PEOPLE	10:20, 12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10.00
8	ELLA ENCHANTED	12:20, 2:40, 5:00, 7:20, 9:40
9	CATWOMAN	10:20, 12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00
10	I, ROBOT	11:20, 2:00, 4:40, 7:20, 10:00

MATINEE: Monday to Friday/ 10 am-4pm except holidays
Matinee Price: P80 for one level cinemas
Regular Price: P150 THX / P95/65 for two levels cinemas / P95 for one level cinemas

ERMITA

536-7809 to 12

Cinema	Movie	Times
1	COLLATERAL	11:30, 2:10, 4:50, 7:30, 10:00
2	CATWOMAN	10:10, 12.30, 2:50, 5.10, 7:30, 9:50
3	GARFIELD	10:30, 12:40, 2:40, 4:40, 6:40, 8:40, 10:05
4	MAKAMUNDO	11:15, 1:20, 3:25, 5:30, 7.35, 9:40
5	DEAD PEOPLE	10:30, 12.45, 3.00, 5:15, 7:30, 9:50
6	COLLATERAL	10.50, 1:30, 4:10, 6:50, 9:30
7	ETERNAL SUNSHINE	11:30, 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:40

METRO EAST

682-8193/99 / 682-8280

Cinema	Movie	Times
1	I, ROBOT	11:20, 1:40, 6:20, 9:00
2	COLLATERAL	11:20, 2:10, 5:00, 7:50, 10:35
3	GARFIELD	10:50, 12:50, 2:50, 4.50, 6.50, 8.50, 10:35
4	CATWOMAN	11:20, 1:40, 4.00, 6.20, 8:20, 10:35
5	DEAD PEOPLE	10.50, 12:50, 2.50, 4.50, 6.50, 9.00
6	ETERNAL SUNSHINE	11.10, 1:40, 4:10, 6.40, 9:10
7	COLLATERAL	11:55, 2:45, 5:35, 8:25
8	MAKAMUNDO	10:50, 12.50, 2.50, 4.50, 6.50, 9:00

NOVALICHES / FAIRVIEW

935-3229 / 31

Cinema	Movie	Times
1	GARFIELD	11:45, 1:55, 4:05, 6:15, 8:30
2	CATWOMAN	10:15, 12:45, 3:15, 5:45, 8:30
3	I, ROBOT	12:10, 2:50, 5:30, 8:30
4	ALONG CAME POLLY	10.50, 12.50, 2:45, 4:40, 6:35, 8:30
5	COLLATERAL	12:10, 2:50, 5.30, 8:30
6	ETERNAL SUNSHINE	11:00, 12.55, 2.50, 4:45, 6:40, 8 35
7	MAKAMUNDO	11:00, 1:25, 3:50, 6:15, 8:40
8	KING ARTHUR	11:00, 1:25, 3:50, 6:15, 8:40

Citisquare MALABON

288-0985/2575

1 COLLATERAL
2 CATWOMAN
3 GARFIELD
4 MAKAMUNDO

CAINTA

240-4661

1 CATWOMAN
2 MAKAMUNDO
3 IMELDA
4 COLLATERAL

STA. ROSA

(049)837-0007

1 COLLATERAL
2 IMELDA
3 ALONG CAME POLLY
4 PERLAS
5 CATWOMAN

LIPA

757-3664 / 312-5870

1 AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS
2 CATWOMAN
3 ALONG CAME POLLY
4 BEAUTIFUL LIFE
5 KING ARTHUR

DASMARIÑAS

852-2125 / 416-4332

1 COLLATERAL
2 AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS
3 I, ROBOT
4 GARFIELD
5 CATWOMAN

STARMILLS

San Fernando, Pampanga
875-1927 / 961-5270

1 WEREWOLF
2 KAINAN SA HIGHWAY
3 AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS
4 ELLA ENCHANTED
5 GARFIELD
6 CATWOMAN

IMUS

471-8188 / 875-5858

1 WEREWOLF
2 GARFIELD
3 MAKAMUNDO
4 COLLATERAL
5 CATWOMAN
6 CATWOMAN

BACOLOD

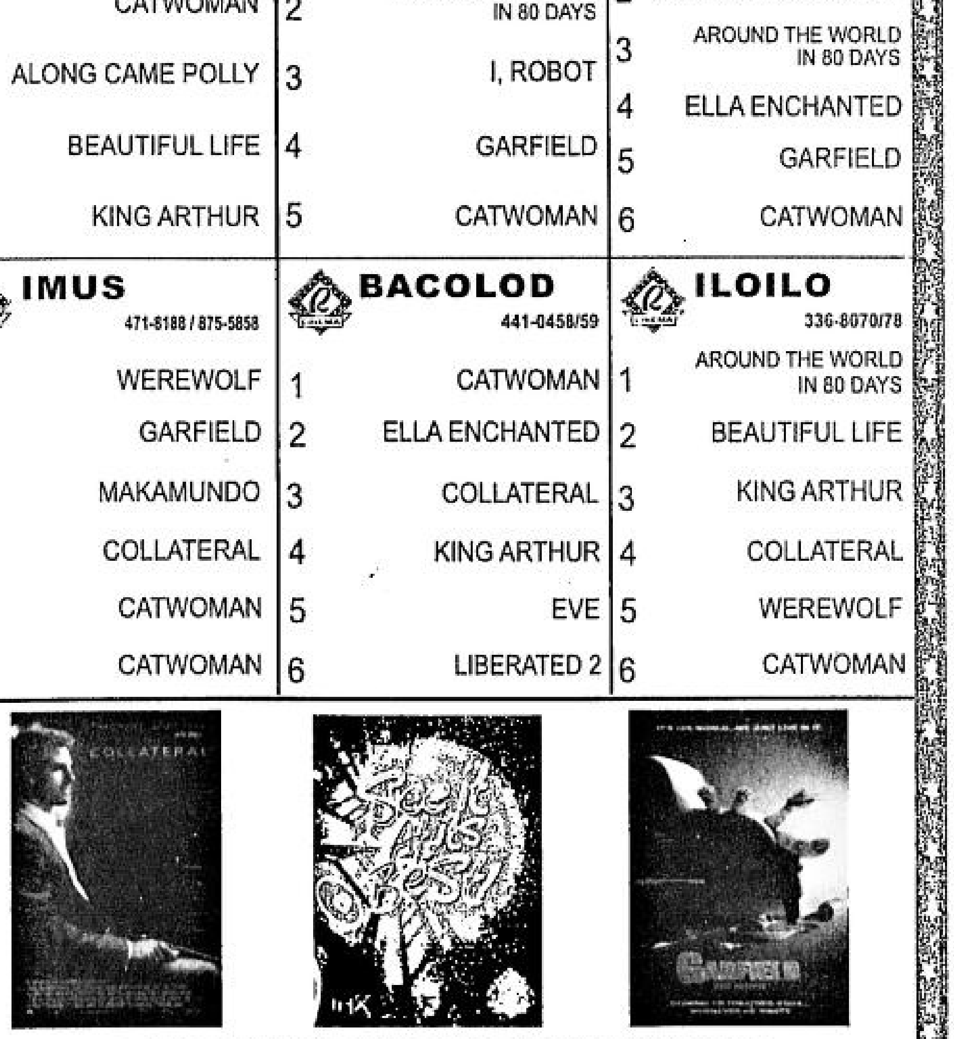
441-0458/59

1 CATWOMAN
2 ELLA ENCHANTED
3 COLLATERAL
4 KING ARTHUR
5 EVE
6 LIBERATED 2

ILOILO

336-8070/78

1 AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS
2 BEAUTIFUL LIFE
3 KING ARTHUR
4 COLLATERAL
5 WEREWOLF
6 CATWOMAN



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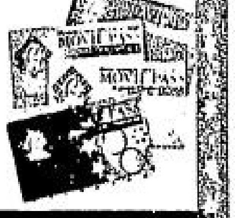
A Pre Paid Movie Pass to the Hottest Seats in town.

- Get Special discounts for volume purchases!



Robinsons Movieworld Prepaid Pass

For inquiries please call: Marketing Services Department at 687-7945 to 47 loc. 14/15

MOVIES/SCHEDULES/PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.

Vivendi steps up presence in the Philippines

GLOBAL media giant Vivendi Universal Games (VUG) is stepping up its presence in the Philippines this year by launching more video games on the market through its licensee Asian Media Development Group (AMDG).

Recently, VUG and AMDG formally launched the much acclaimed Ground Control II before trade partners. The action-packed strategy war game had simultaneous launches in Korea, Malaysia, China and the Philippines.

Gerry Castro, AMDG vice president, said the launching is part of the company's aggressive expansion and to further boost its presence in the electronic entertainment market. Castro had earlier announced that Vivendi through AMDG would be expanding its product line by introducing more video games this year.

Last March 27, VUG and AMDG also launched the popular sequel to Counter-Strike, Counter-Strike: Condition Zero. Counter-Strike continues to be the world's most popular war game with an estimated 2 million players addicted to it and sales revenues of $75 million worldwide.

Vivendi is the publisher of computer game titles such as Warcraft, Starcraft, Diablo, Half-Life and Counter-Strike, which have been distributed exclusively by AMDG since 2002.

Castro aired confidence on the success of Ground Control II due to the overwhelming acceptance of the product in North America and Asia. The new game was developed by Massive Entertainment, a Swedish game developer affiliated with Vivendi.

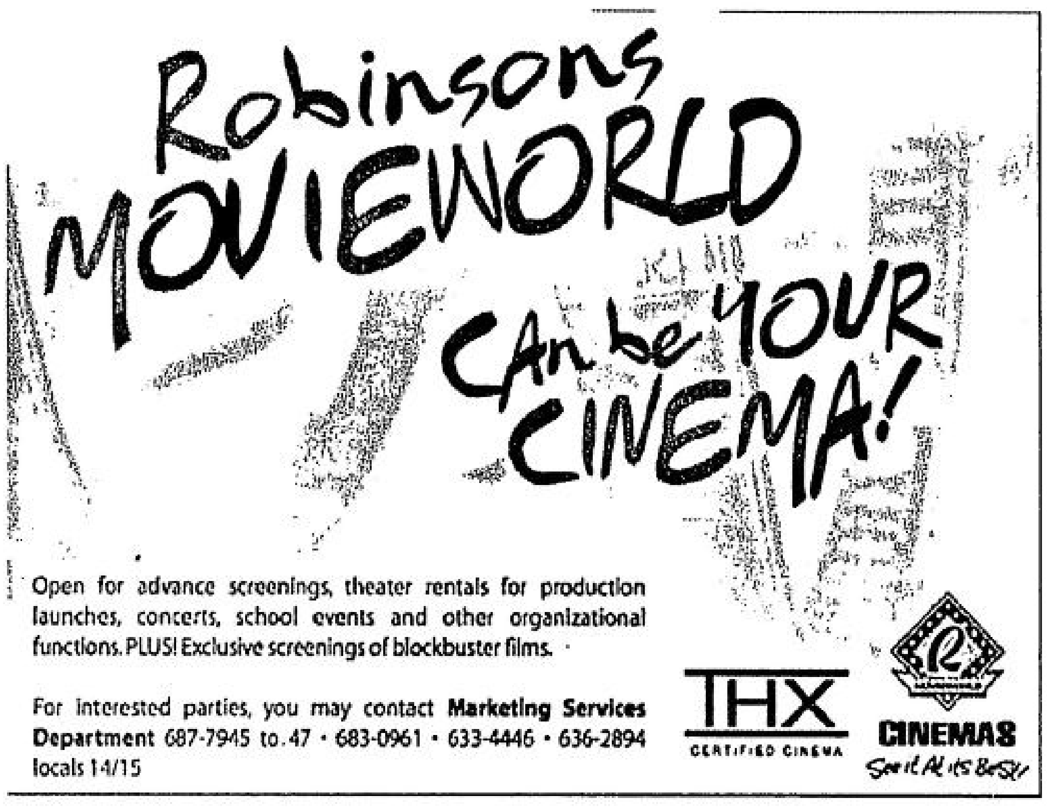
"It is a real-time tactics game set in a science-fiction setting. The game delivers explosive, action-packed gameplay, focusing on squad tactics, with full use of the 3D battlefield," said Castro.

Video games have beefed up the local Internet café industry, where more and more shops have been introducing video games into their operations to draw in more customers. Locally, there are around 100,000 regular players of PC games based on industry statistics.

Castro said Ground Control II offers outstanding details of graphics, 22 missions of action-packed combat, cooperative multiplay of up to 8 players and an immersive storyline written in collaboration with noted science-fiction author Joe Dever.

The game's story puts you in the role of Jacob Angelus, a captain in the Northern Star Alliance. Your home planet, Morningstar Prime, is currently under siege by Imperial Terran forces led by the ruthless Imperator Vlaana. As you make your way through the campaign, an alien race, known as the Virons, will eventually get involved in both sides of the conflict.

TRUE LOVE DOESN'T HAVE TO BE IDEAL...
IT JUST HAS TO BE REAL.
JOHN LLOYD CRUZ
BEA ALONZO
now that i have you
Directed by LAURENTI M. DYOGI
STAR CINEMA
ABS-CBN FILM PRODUCTIONS, INC.
URBAN
porsche
karimadon
OPENS ON AUGUST 11, 2004


Robinsons MOVIEWORLD
Can be YOUR CINEMA!
THX CERTIFIED CINEMA
CINEMAS
See it At its Best!

Open for advance screenings, theater rentals for production launches, concerts, school events and other organizational functions. PLUS! Exclusive screenings of blockbuster films.

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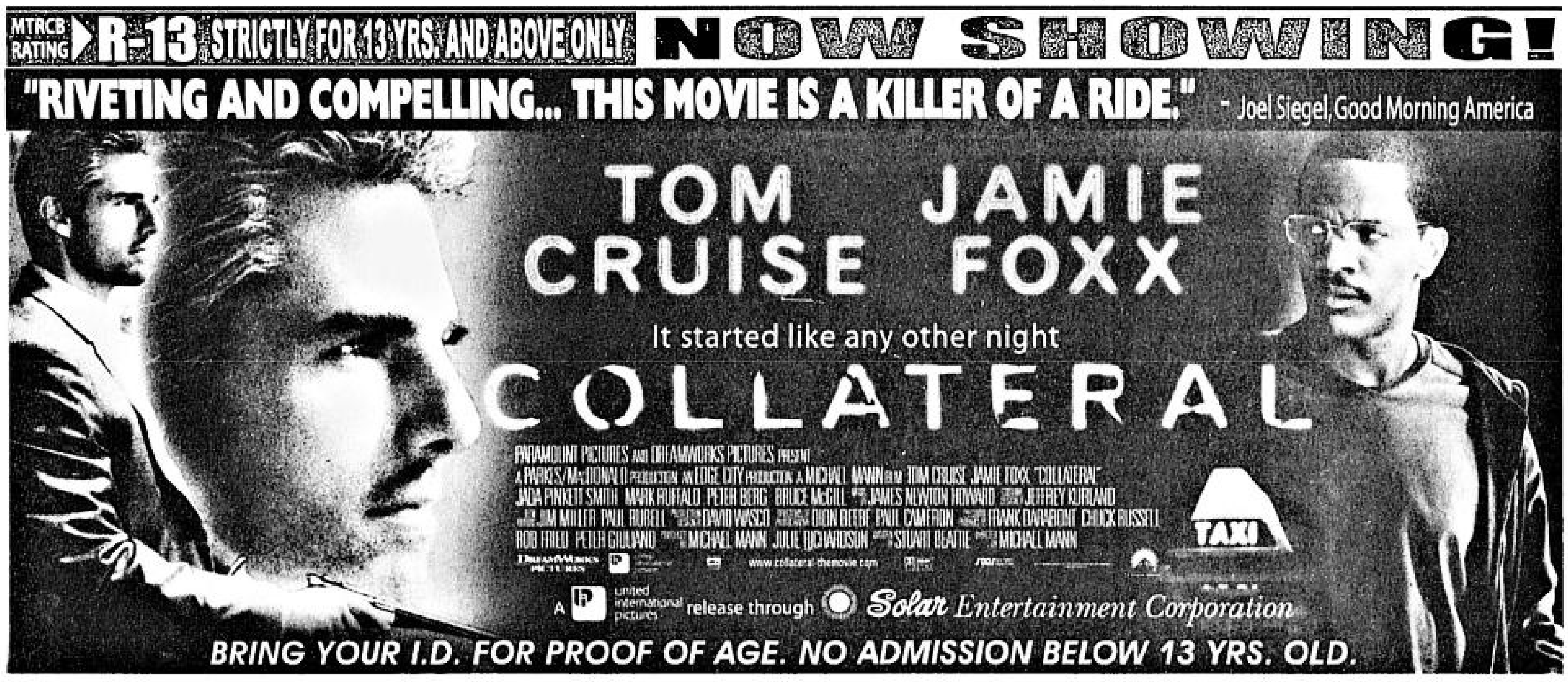
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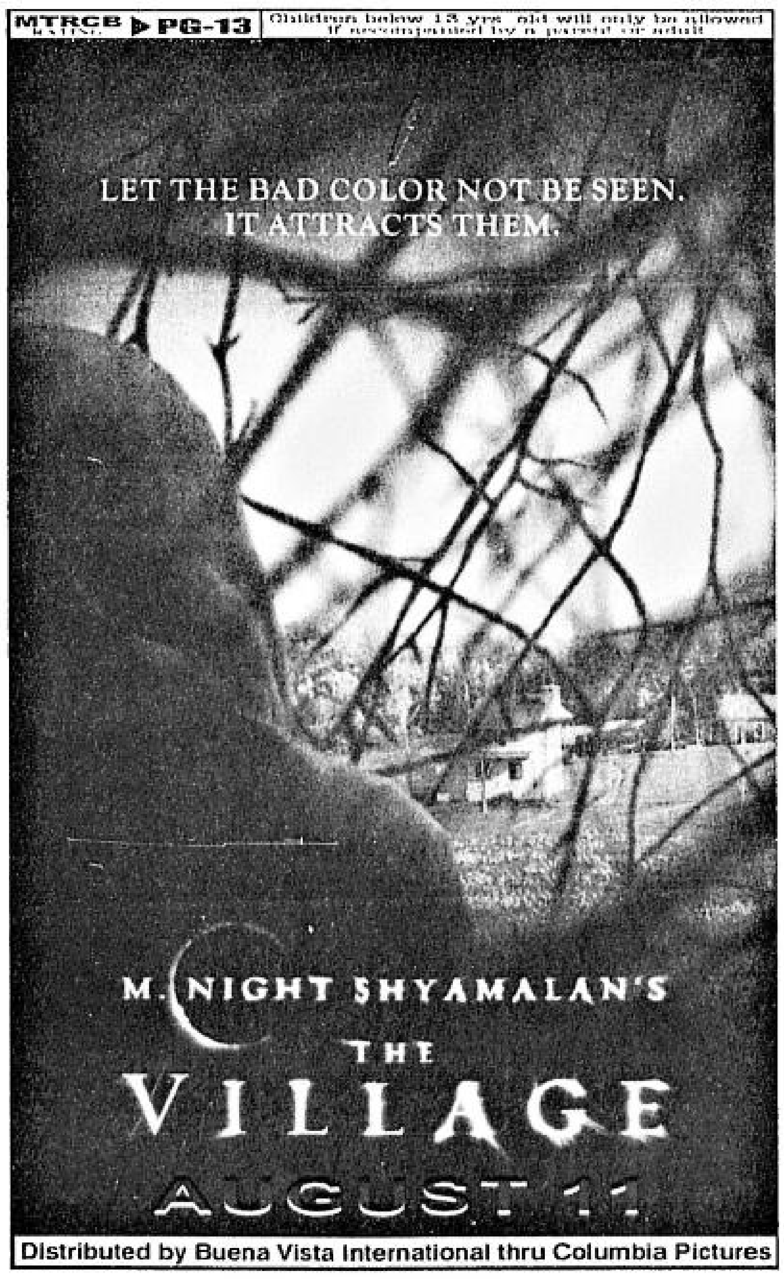
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Film fest committee broke own rules, says indie producer

By Marinel R. Cruz

THE METRO Manila Film Festival (MMFF) executive committee "appears" to have adjusted rules and regulations "to favor certain producers over the others," according to an independent producer whose entry in the December film fest failed to make it to the final eight.

In a letter to festival overall chair Bayani Fernando, who is also chair of the Metro Manila Development Authority, MLR Films producer Josabeth V. Alonso cited four "arbitrary implementation and/or changes in the (MMFF) rules."

MLR Films is the producer of "Minsan Pa," which is to star real-life lovers Jomari Yllana and Ara Mina and to be directed by Jeffrey Jeturian.

The movie failed to make it to the list of MMFF's "Magic 8."

Alonso cited Rule II, Sec. 4, which says "only one sister company may be allowed to participate separately from its participating principal producer." She said this was violated when the executive committee allowed the inclusion of "Que Sera Sera," "Mano Po 3," "Aishite Imasu 1941" and "Sigaw" among the final eight.

Alonso said all four movies "are productions of the Monteverde group," referring to Regal matriarch Lily Monteverde. As festival entries, "Que Sera Sera" was identified as a production of Regal Entertainment, "Mano Po 3" of MAQ Productions, "Aishite Imasu 1941" of BasFilms Production, and "Sigaw" of MegaVision.

"While BasFilm and MegaVision appear to be new players in the industry, the publicity photos of 'Aishite Imasu' show Mrs. Lily Monteverde signing contracts with the lead stars, Judy Ann Santos and Raymart Santiago," said Alonso. "One of the lead stars of 'Sigaw,' Angel Locsin, is an exclusive contract star of Regal Films."

Fernando in a telephone interview with INQUIRER Entertainment said he has not read Alonso's letter and therefore could not comment on it. But he denied that rules were adjusted to favor certain producers. "Why would we do such a thing?" he said. "*Para naman kaming manloloko nun.*"

He said he even assigned some MMDA personnel to the MMFF executive committee "so that not all committee members were involved in the film industry."

Asked what he intended to do about Alonso's complaint, Fernando said, "If it is valid, we'll do something about it."

In her letter, Alonso also pointed out that the deadline of submission of entries was moved twice: from the original July 1 to July 10, and then to July 25.

Alonso said this violated Rule III, Sec. 1, which states that "the submission of screenplay (sic) of intended festival entries shall be within May 24 to July 1, 5 p.m., beyond which no screenplay shall be entertained."

MLR Films submitted its entry last June 23, she said.

3 deadlines

She said that by July 1, only three screenplays had been submitted: "Minsan Pa," "Sa Pagkagat ng Dilim" and "Panaghoy sa Suba." The deadline was moved to July 10, she said.

She said seven other entries were submitted on the new deadline: "Wanted: Dead but Alive," "Full House," "Guardia de Honor," "Black Eye," "Star Walker," "Bikini Open" and "Anino ni Amanda."

But the deadline was moved again, this time to July 23. "It was during this period that a flurry of entries followed," Alonso said. "The third deadline was done to accommodate big producers, no doubt about it."

Alonso also noted that a number of entries were not certain who their stars would be, as indicated in their use of words "or" and "choices of." She said this violated Rule II, Sec. 1.5, Sub Par. A, which states that "confirmation of the stars as proof that they are participating in the film should be submitted to the committee."

Alonso also stressed that Rule VIII, Sec. 10 states that "no two entries starring the same leading man or leading lady shall be allowed."

"Notably, the lead female star of both 'Mano Po 3' and 'Aishite Imasu' is Judy Ann Santos," Alonso stressed.

But she said she has nothing against Monteverde. "I'm not doing this to hurt Mother Lily," she said. "I respect her because she is a very creative person. I merely want to point out that something is not right in the system.

"I was hoping that this year would be better (for the film industry)," said Alonso, whose film ranked No. 19 on the list of entries.

She said she is not after a slot in the weeklong December film festival anymore. "*May lamat na kasi* (There's already a crack in the system)," she said. "I can show my movie on another playdate. But if they plan to do something about it, they should correct everything, start from square 1."

> 'I merely want to point out that something is not right in the system'

BUSY STAR. Judy Ann Santos is listed as the lead of two of the final 8 films—another violation, says the complainant.

Tom Cruise is good when he's bad /C3

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Ces Drilon boosts production of inspiring TV programs for young viewers

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

(Conclusion)

CES Drilon recently addressed a forum at the PICC on how to help the youth find its voice in the media. The concluding part of her remarks, as paraphrased from the original in Filipino:

Media should be helped by private companies. Specifically, advertisers should support the reportage of positive and inspiring stories.

For my part, as a broadcast professional, I believe that I should uphold and boost certain issues and principles like population management. How can we assure a good future for our youth if our population continues to explode?

I also advocate entrepreneurship. From a young age, Filipinos should be taught how to engage in business, to be employers instead of employees.

The ABS-CBN Foundation has a micro-finance arm, the Bayan Foundation, which lends money to the poor, so they can earn from putting up small businesses.

As a broadcast journalist, I believe that we can do a lot if we all work together—media organizations, the private sector, especially the advertisers. We should all do what we can to conceptualize, produce and support more relevant TV programs.

This is because the airlanes are owned by the entire Filipino nation, and not by only a few powerful companies.

***

After Ces' talk, the young people at the forum at the PICC shared that they were heartened by her upbeat views, her genuine concern both as a broadcast professional and mother, and her suggestions on how television can be of better service to the country's youth.

During the question-and-answer session that followed, it was stressed that the Philippines' median population has become exceedingly young, so it is of utmost importance to give our youth every opportunity to be seen and heard.

Yes, there are a lot of teenybopper shows on the tube, but most of them stress love, crushes, gimmicks and other relatively trivial and trivializing concerns.

The young people at the forum shared that many young Filipinos are made of more substantial stuff, but their stories don't get told on TV—and the country as a whole is the poorer for it.

At the end of the long session, both speakers and the audience were motivated to do much more in giving the country's youth the importance they deserve.

With Ces Drilon and other responsible broadcasters helping them by showing the way to more effective projection on TV, the right young Filipino voices can finally be heard on TV—loud and clear!

'Four Sisters'

ABS-CBN's new Korean soap opera, "Four Sisters," airs at 10 a.m. from Monday to Friday. The drama series is about Dr. Chan and his four beautiful daughters.

Andrea takes care of her father after his wife dies, and gives up a chance at love with her father's protege. Tanya's ambition to inherit control of her father's hospital may prove to be her downfall. Faye is obsessed with marrying a wealthy man, but falls for a penniless poet. And Nina discovers that she has a congenital heart defect.

'Hip Hop Groove'

"HIP Hop Groove" gathers top hip hop and R & B stars and their biggest hits in one CD. The musical cast includes Black-Eyed Peas, **Nelly, Lumidee, Ja Rule, Ashanti, R. Kelly, Jay Z, Beyonce, Mya, Justin Timberlake, Alicia Keys, Ruben Studdard, Usher, Missy Elliott** and **Brian McKnight**.

Feedback

FROM **Jose Mari Maycacayan** of Binangonan, Rizal: "Congratulations, your column is getting better and better, and more interesting. I admire you for your objective TV and film reviews. Your writing mirrors the sentiment of the majority.

"Our media personalities should be more responsible. The viewing public should be more critical and vigilant. TV production and programming executives should do their work well. And advertisers should support worthwhile and relevant shows."

Reality radio show

MONSTER Radio RX 93.1's exciting reality show, "Radio Idol," is now on its second level of competition, "The Challenge." It brings the search for the next RX deejay on the air, with listeners getting to participate in the judging process.

The ultimate "Radio Idol" will be proclaimed at RX's 21st anniversary party late this month. "Radio Idol" airs weekdays at 7 p.m., with a replay the next morning at 7 a.m. Log on to www.rx931.com for the on-air schedule of the "idol-worthies."

'Pets in Style'

FESTIVAL Supermall at Alabang presents the most talented and "fashionable" dogs in "Pets in Style," a fashion show and competition for canines at 3 p.m. on Aug. 8 at the mall's Carousel Court. Call 850-3514 or visit www.festivalsupermall.com.

RPN lets the laughter go on and on as it turns 44

By Jocelyn Valle, *Contributor*

SHOW TIME

TALENT, more than star value, makes for a thoroughly entertaining show.

This was the thrust of RPN 9's anniversary concert, "Seriously Funny," held at the Aliw Theater Tuesday night. And a lot of talent was what the audience got.

The performers were Willie Nepomuceno, Andrew E., Ara Mina, April Boy Regino, Candy Pangilinan, Eugene Domingo, Giselle Sanchez, Toni Gonzaga, Patricia Ismael, Tuesday Vargas and Nolyn Cabahug, with the Manila Philharmonic Orchestra (MPO) and the Whiplash Dancers.

Willie Nep set the tone by opening the show as comedy king Dolphy, a former vaudeville performer who found stardom in movies and on television shows such as RPN's old gem, "John and Marsha." Right away, the audience warmed up for an enjoyable evening.

Andrew E jammed with the MPO with his instrument of choice—a mechanical typewriter placed on top of a white baby grand piano. He then sang the Salbakuta hit "Stupid Love," still with the classical musicians and their conductor, Rodel Colmenar.

Unlike in other concerts where the orchestra is relegated to the background, the MPO was part of the whole act of "Seriously Funny." Violinist Merjohn Lagaya, in fact, stole the thunder from singer Toni Gonzaga, whom he accompanied in her rendition of the Sharon Cuneta original, "Ikaw."

Clad in a trench coat a la "Matrix" and ad libbing, Merjohn was a budding comic finally discovered.

Eugene, who's popularly known as Lorelei in the fantaserye "Marina" in another network, belted out "Someone to Watch Over Me" and managed to squeeze in a few punch lines. She thanked RPN for giving her early acting jobs on the sitcoms "Ready na, Direk" and "Buddy and Sol."

Patricia, who used to work as a production assistant for RPN and now acts in several shows on other channels, did a schizophrenic rendering of Vanessa Carlton's "A Thousand Miles." How was that? Well, she was prim and proper in the slow part of the song, but suddenly turned frantic as the tempo became faster.

When April Boy started his spiel with an aside on William Hung and the orchestra started playing "She Bangs," it was obvious that he would be aping the "American Idol" wannabe, but somehow the jukebox king still did the number his own way.

Willie Nep proved he's the master mimic when he disappeared into several personas—from Erap to Cookie Monster, Popeye, Lone Ranger, Charlie Chaplin, to Marlon Brando and Kermit—all in one number.

Tuesday made the audience forget that she sang the current novelty hit, "Hindi Ako Bakla," with her rendition of a Larusso pop tune.

Ara Mina, however, failed in her attempt as a torch singer. She mumbled the words to, and lost the drift of, Linda Ronstadt's "I've Got a Crush on You."

Tenor Nolyn Cabahug dedicated "Vesti la guibba" ("On with the Motley"), an aria from "Pagliacci" (or "Clowns"), to all comedians. The MPO played a combination of music from serious and funny films—"Elephant Walk," "Charade," "Theme from the Pink Panther" and "Days of Wine and Roses."

"Seriously Funny" was RPN's way of celebrating its 44th year anniversary. The concert was taped as live at the Aliw Theater and will be shown tonight at 9.

"Comedy is a staple in RPN," Cerge Remonde, the network's chair and president, said in a speech. He cited as examples "John and Marsha," "Duplex," "Joey and Son" and "Buddy and Sol."

"And this is our way of giving a tribute to the artists of comedy especially those who've been part of RPN," he said. "Let the laughter and the wide smiles go on and on."

And although the likes of Nida Blanca, who led the slide show during the concert, are already gone, there is the group of "Seriously Funny" that carries on with the tradition. They sang Chaplin's anthem, "Smile," as a fitting closing to a two-hour show of pure entertainment. And that was what the audience had on their faces as they filed out of the venue.

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STARS, prizes and surprises are waiting at Sta. Lucia East Grand Mall this month.

Watch the grand finals of the Search for Singing Stars 2004, where aspiring singers aged 8 to 15 compete for the top prize.

Catch the stars of Star Cinema's latest offering, "Now That I Have You," led by John Lloyd Cruz and Bea Alonzo, as they hold a fans day and promo tour on Aug. 8.

Get as much as 50-percent discounts on merchandise mall-wide during the three-day sale on Aug. 13, 14 and 15. A P500 single purchase receipt automatically entitles a customer to a raffle coupon for the 13th anniversary giveaway promo for a chance to win a brand-new car.

Watch the EuroPhil Performing Arts on Aug. 14, then join the fun as McDonald's stages a Grand Fun Day for kids and kids at heart on Aug. 15.

Learn new things in science as Knowledge Channel brings back the Knowledge Caravan from Aug. 19 to 21.

Dance to the SexBomb's newest single as the sexy group performs live on Aug. 27. Laugh till you drop in the showdown between Ethel Booba and K Brosas on Aug. 28.

Star in a Million champion Erik Santos will melt your heart with songs from his album on Aug. 29.

For details on the events, call the Ad & Promo Department at 681-5401 local 109.

Japanese programs go English

STARTING Aug. 2, all programs on Animax Asia, the first and only 24-hour Japanese animé channel in Asia which features the latest and most popular animé programming from Japan, will be broadcast in English.

Before Aug. 2, programs airing in Kids Hour from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. were dubbed in English while the rest of the programs were broadcast in their original Japanese language with English subtitles.

From time to time, Animax Asia will broadcast some programs in Japanese between 11 p.m. and midnight in the Super Maniax program belt. Viewers who still prefer to watch their favorite animé programs in Japanese will be able to do so if their cable operator offers a dual sound system.

"Fans who have grown with Japanese animé over the years can continue to enjoy watching their favorite programs in Japanese, while those who were recently introduced to this unique art form, or who prefer it without subtitles, can now enjoy it in English," said Betty Tsui, Animax Asia's vice president of programming and production.

Animax Asia is now available in the Philippines on Sky Cable 26, Home Cable 18 and Dream Satellite TV 48.

ALL FOR LITO

Young television director Lito Cayetano (fifth from left) has signed up with ABS-CBN where he will direct TV shows and movies. His mother and siblings were present at the contract signing (from left): Rep. Allan Cayetano, Sen. Pia Cayetano, Mrs. Sandra Cayetano, ABS-CBN senior vice president for TV production Cory Vidanes, ABS-CBN managing director for film productions Malou Santos, Lino's talent manager Ronnie Henares, and Ren-Ren Cayetano.

COLD-BLOODED. Cruise in "Collateral"

Cruise is good when he's bad

REVIEW

NEW YORK—When Tom Cruise is good, he's very, very good. But when he's bad, he's better.

"Collateral" gives him his first chance to be truly, deeply evil. Not just cocky and flawed, as he was so stunningly in "Magnolia." Not just broken and lost, as he was in "Minority Report."

As a hit man assigned to take out five federal witnesses over the course of a night, Cruise's Vincent is the devil in a gray tailored suit.

Gone are the self-satisfied smile, the complacent tics of extraordinary stardom. He has dropped his voice to a totally different register, and with his silver-streaked hair and facial scruff, he sometimes looks like a totally different person—namely William Petersen in 1986's "Manhunter," an early film by Michael Mann, director of "Collateral."

Casting Cruise as the villain may sound like a gimmick, but it's the essential part of a film that, for its first two-thirds, at least, pulsates with unpredictability and suspense.

Like Mann's "Heat," which was also set in Los Angeles, "Collateral" viscerally captures a certain urban dichotomy: the veneer of gauzy glamour covering the city's dangerous underbelly. The sun is going down, smothering everything in a smoggy, orange haze. Cars lazily navigate the streets of downtown LA as The Roots' "The Seed 2.0" plays in the background. But something darker is going on underneath, and Mann understands and conveys those discordant rhythms.

Vincent arrives in town and trolls this terrain with the help of a conscientious, slightly nerdy taxi driver named Max (Jamie Foxx, the "Any Given Sunday" star, also playing against type). He asks Max to drive him around all night to visit friends and business associates before his 6 a.m. flight the next day—but really, he hijacks the cab through a combination of charm and implied threat. Max is reluctant but says yes when Vincent fans a handful of cash before his eyes.

During their first stop, a dead body falls on top of the cab from a fourth-floor window, the messy victim of Vincent's normally methodical handiwork. The stunned Max realizes the true nature of his passenger and gets dragged along for the ride.

Max can't predict where they're going, and neither can we. Their conversations in the cab between hits don't seem to be about much, but notice the way each of them changes subtly as the night goes on. The abrupt Vincent listens a bit more, the respectful Max gets more assertive—though he can't get away, and barely tries. The camera frames them as if they were sitting in each other's laps, giving the film a claustrophobic tenseness.

All the while, they're being chased by LAPD detective Fanning, played by the always-solid Mark Ruffalo, who doesn't get nearly enough screen time. Jada Pinkett Smith is typically lovely as a lawyer who rides in Max's cab at the movie's start, and Javier Bardem makes a too-brief cameo as a drug cartel leader.

Then "Collateral" changes, too: It becomes laughably ridiculous. Starting with a shoot-out during a hit at a crowded Asian nightclub, the script from Stuart Beattie (co-writer of "Pirates of the Caribbean: The Curse of the Black Pearl") spirals frustratingly out of control.

Vincent somehow acquires the invincibility of the T-1000 in "Terminator 2." He's involved in a car crash but he crawls from the upside-down wreckage and, without the slightest hesitation, runs through the deserted downtown LA streets, gun in hand, hunting down his next victim. Shooting him in the head also does little to deter him. And the film's final moments, which presumably were intended to be poignant, are instead unintentionally funny.

Everything that came beforehand, though, was so arresting that you'll want to forgive the film its final flaws.

"Collateral," a DreamWorks Pictures and Paramount Pictures release, runs 120 minutes. Three stars out of four. *AP*

One-day media workshop

THE CHARACTER Building Foundation, in coordination with noted personalities from the golden years of radio, is organizing a one-day workshop to help expand vision, sharpen skills, uncover potentials of would-be media practitioners and change the way they see, feel and process ideas and work.

The eight-hour workshop is on Aug. 14, divided equally among Ben Aniceto, Lito Gorospe, Tina Loy and Jo San Diego.

Considered one of the pillars of broadcast media, Aniceto has a wealth of experience and accomplishments in radio and television, including managing 15 radio and three TV stations, a recording company, two US-based newspapers and a marketing outfit; directing and producing dramas, comedies and musicals, creating commercials and documentaries, scriptwriting, musical scoring and production.

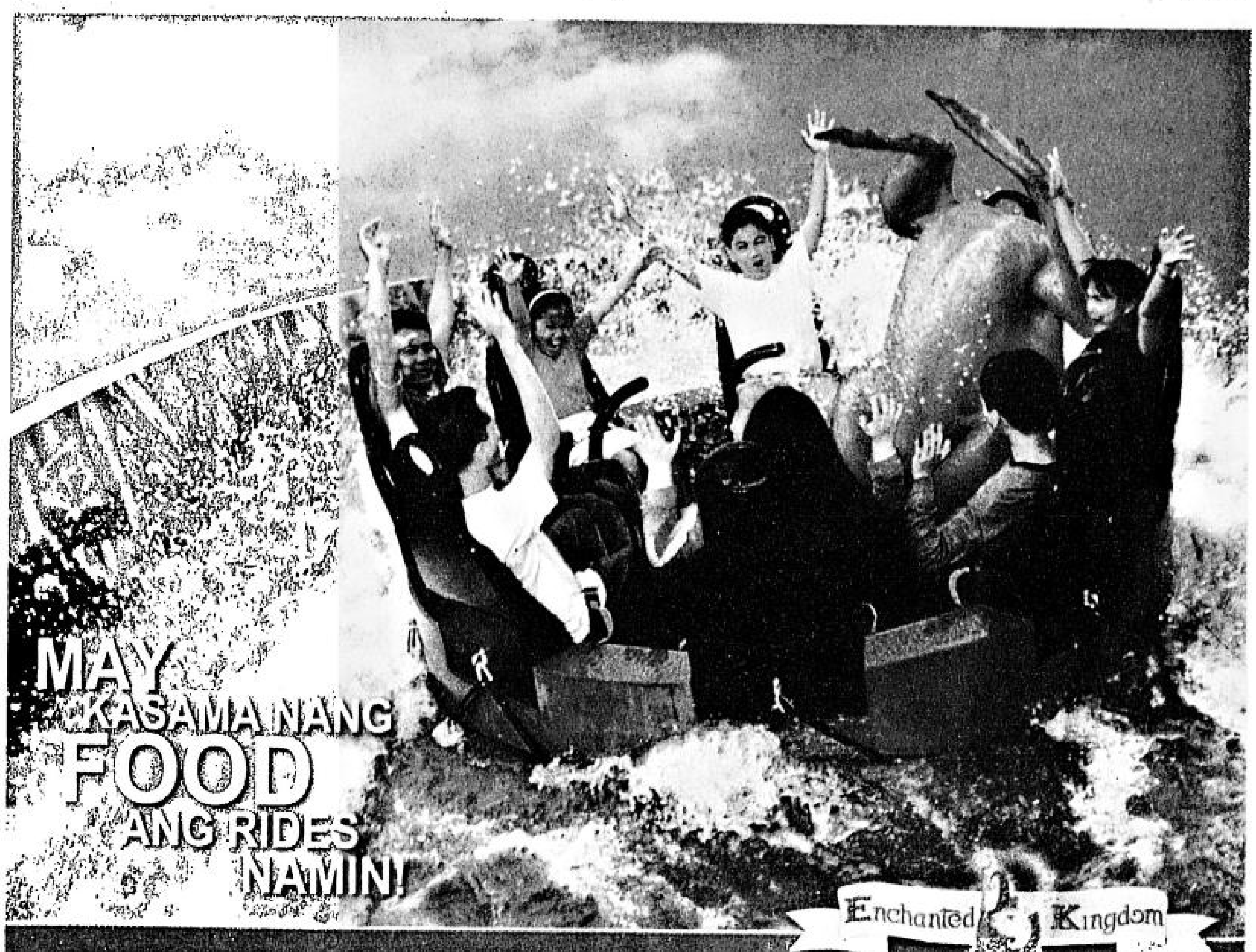
One of his accomplishments in radio is making dzMM the number one news and music station. He was also responsible for making dzXL the overall leader in the AM ratings game. In FM, his dynamism in broadcast management replaced dzMB and dzWS as top pop stations with NOW Radio. He followed it up with another success, dwOW Radio.

"Radio Patrol" is Aniceto's brainchild. Although he first presented his concept to dzRH, which turned it down because of financial reasons, Aniceto finally launched it in 1967. The move prompted the Lopezes to move him to TV in 1968.

On TV, the feather in Aniceto's cap is giving emphasis to public affairs by hiring the likes of Loren Legarda, Che-Che Lazaro, Angelo Castro Jr., Korina Sanchez, Angelique Lazo, Noli de Castro, Mel Tiangco, Robert Arevalo and Merce Henares. Among the programs he initiated were "PEP Talk," "Good Morning Philippines," "Magandang Umaga Bayan," "Probe," "World Tonight" and "TV Patrol."

He continues his love affair with radio by playing classics of the '40s, '50s and '60s in his Sunday program "Afternoon Delight," 3-4 p.m. over dwBR 104.3.

Those interested in the workshop may call Joyce at 890-5321.



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MILO 1K MILLION MARATHON

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2. Using any **SMART, TALK 'N TEXT, ADDICT, GLOBE, or TOUCH MOBILE cellphone, text to 29767:**

MILO(space)Code(space)Name(slash)Address

Ex: **MILO 123456 Joan dela Cruz/12 Scout Borromeo St. Q.C.**

3. One (1) valid code sent = One (1) raffle entry. Each valid code can be sent only once per registered participant.

FINISH LINE:

MILO Event Draw Prizes (10 draws)
MILO Jackets (10 winners)
₱ 1,000 worth of Adidas products (3 winners)

Grand Draw Prizes
₱ 250,000 cash
₱ 500,000 cash
₱ 1,000,000 cash

The 20% prize tax for Grand Prize winners will be shouldered by Nestlé Philippines, Inc.

RULES:

1. Promo period is June 15 to November 11, 2004.
2. **A minimum of one (1) raffle entry is required to be eligible for the ₱ 250,000 Grand Prize. A minimum of two (2) raffle entries is required to be eligible for the ₱ 500,000 Grand Prize. A mimimum of four (4) raffle entries is required for the ₱ 1,000,000 Grand Prize.**
3. The MILO Event Draws will be held on July 23, July 30, August 6, August 13, August 20, August 27, September 3, September 10, September 17, and September 24, 2004. Entries sent from 12:00 AM to 11:59 PM of the covered period will be qualified for the MILO Event draw.

MILO Event Period	Date	Period Covered
1	Jul 23	Jun 15-Jul 22
2	Jul 30	Jul 23-Jul 29
3	Aug 6	Jul 30-Aug 5
4	Aug 13	Aug 6-Aug 12
5	Aug 20	Aug 13-Aug 19
6	Aug 27	Aug 20-Aug 26
7	Sep 3	Aug 27-Sep 2
8	Sep 10	Sep 3-Sep 9
9	Sep 17	Sep 10-Sep 16
10	Sep 24	Sep 17-Sep 23

4. Per MILO Event Draw, there will be 10 winners of MILO jackets and 3 winners of Adidas products. MILO Event winners will be announced during the MILO Events to be held two days after the draw.
5. MILO Event Draw winners will still qualify for the Grand Draw.
6. Grand Draw is on November 12, 2004. All entries sent from 12:00 AM of June 15 to 11:59 PM of November 11, 2004 will qualify for the Grand Draw.
7. During the Grand Draw, a winner can win only once. If his/her name gets drawn twice, he/she will get the prize with the higher value.
8. The electronic draws will be held at Information Gateway, Inc. at Unit 1401, West Tower, Tektite Bldg., Exchange Road, Ortigas Center, Pasig City in the presence of a BFAD representative.
9. All winners will be verified by the telecommunications company for valid charged/billed transactions. Only registered participants with properly billed transactions can win.
10. Winners will be informed through a call to their mobile phones and via registered mail.
11. Grand Prize winners can claim their prizes from Nestlé Philippines, Inc., Nestlé Center, 31 Plaza Drive, Rockwell Center, Makati City. Apart from 2 valid IDs with photo and signature, and the active cellphone with the winning SIM card, they should present the following:

₱ 250,000 winner
one MILO sticker (attached to MILO label) with valid code texted-in (winning code included)

₱ 500,000 winner
two MILO stickers (attached to MILO labels) with valid codes texted-in (winning code included)

₱ 1,000,000 winner
four MILO stickers (attached to MILO labels) with valid codes texted-in (winning code included)

MILO 1K labels should be clean and fully intact. The codes should correspond to the codes sent to Information Gateway or they will be considered invalid.

12. A winner may send a representative to claim the prize provided the representative brings an authorization letter from the winner, the representative's valid ID with photo and signature, and all the requirements stated in the preceding section.
13. MILO Event Draw winners may claim their prizes at any of the 28th National MILO Marathon events. They should present the active cellphone with the winning SIM card, MILO 1K label, and the sticker with the winning code, plus two valid IDs with photo and signature. If they cannot come to a MILO Event, they may claim their prize at designated Nestlé offices (as indicated in the registered mail notification).
14. Winners need to sign an acknowledgment receipt/waiver to be provided by Nestlé before they get their prize.
15. Prizes must be claimed within 60 days after notification. Otherwise, they will be forfeited with prior BFAD approval.
16. All employees of Nestlé Philippines, Inc., Globe Telecom, Innove Communications, Publicis-Manila, Smart Communications, Piltel, Information Gateway, packaging suppliers, advertising and promotion agencies, and relatives up to the 2nd degree of consanguinity and affinity are automatically disqualified from the promo.
17. Promo is available nationwide.

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Per DOH-BFAD Permit No. 0620 series of 2004.

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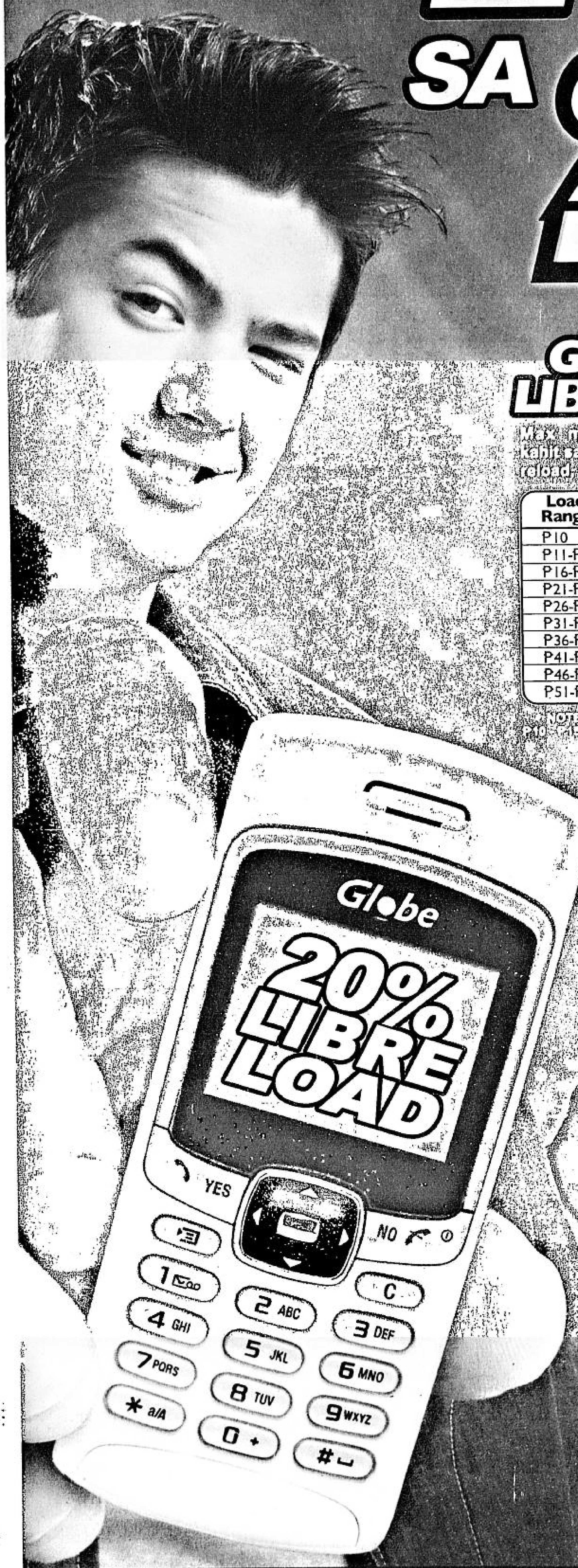

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Load Range	Libre Load
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P11-P15	P3
P16-P20	P4
P21-P25	P5
P26-P30	P6
P31-P35	P7
P36-P40	P8
P41-P45	P9
P46-P50	P10
P51-P55	P11

Load Range	Libre Load
P56-P60	P12
P61-P65	P13
P66-P70	P14
P71-P75	P15
P76-P80	P16
P81-P85	P17
P86-P90	P18
P91-P95	P19
P96-P100	P20
P101-P105	P21

Load Range	Libre Load
P106-P110	P22
P111-P115	P23
P116-P120	P24
P121-P125	P25
P126-P130	P26
P131-P135	P27
P136-P140	P28
P141-P145	P29
P146-P150	P30

NOTE: Promo also open to Touch Mobile. AutoloadMAX denominations are P25 - P150 for Globe and P10 - P150 for Touch Mobile. The Libre Load expiry will follow the expiry of the load amount purchased.
See flyers for details. Promo period is from August 1 to September 30, 2004.
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1453, Series of 2004.

Sa mga retailers: Be one of the 10 daily winners of P5,000 Libre Load na pang-benta...dagdag puhunan yan!

Bawat P100 AutoloadMAX benta nyo = 1 raffle entry

MAX MARAMING BENTA, MAX MARAMING CHANCES TO WIN!

See flyers for details.
Promo period: August 1 to September 30, 2004

Hurry! Promo until Sept. 30, 2004 only!

*You will receive Libre Load and a text advisory from Globe or Touch Mobile within 48 hours after load transaction.

touch mobile

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Editor **Chelo Banal-Formoso**

Zoom, zoom, Quezon

Text by Linda B. Bolido
Photos by Joan Bondoc

With the opening of SM in Lucena, the province is becoming more than just a bus or ship stop for many Filipino travelers

DESPITE the storied past of Quezon province, most Filipinos know very little about it.

They know bits and pieces—beautiful and generally still pristine beaches; the colorful Pahiyas in thanksgiving to San Isidro Labrador, patron saint of farmers; the impressive national forest park; the native delicacies like Lucban *longanisa* and *pancit, chami, budin, broas,* and many more.

But they may not know that Manuel Luis Quezon—the first President of the Commonwealth of the Philippines whose birth anniversary on Aug. 19 is observed as a holiday in certain parts of the country, and as "Linggo ng Wika" nationwide—launched his career in politics in this province which was then known as Tayabas. At age 28, Quezon became the first elected governor of Tayabas, a position that would lead him to the national political stage.

His political career would culminate in his heading the Commonwealth that was set up before World War II, preparatory to the eventual recognition of the country's independence and complete transfer of leadership from the Americans to Filipinos.

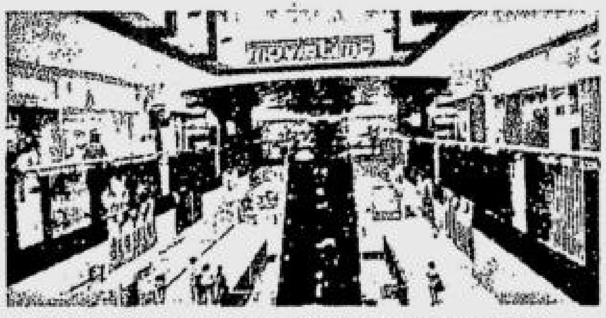
The late historian Teodoro A. Agoncillo described Quezon "as the first president of his country experimenting with a transition period of self-rule prior to complete independence in 1946."

Quezon, of course, is also known as the "father of the national language." But, al-

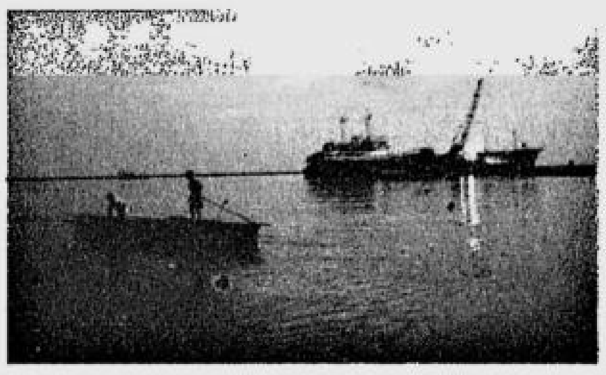
ZOOM/ D3

MANUEL Luis Quezon, first President of the Commonwealth of the Philippines and father of the national language, launched his political career in the province that now bears his name.

SILANGANG Nayon Park and Restaurant in Pagbilao has a petting zoo with turtles, deer, monkeys, birds.



AS IN the other branches, SM Lucena is a mix of foreign brands, Manila-based establishments and local enterprises.



DALAHICAN is a busy fish port in sleepy Pagbilao.

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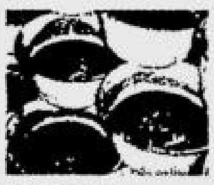

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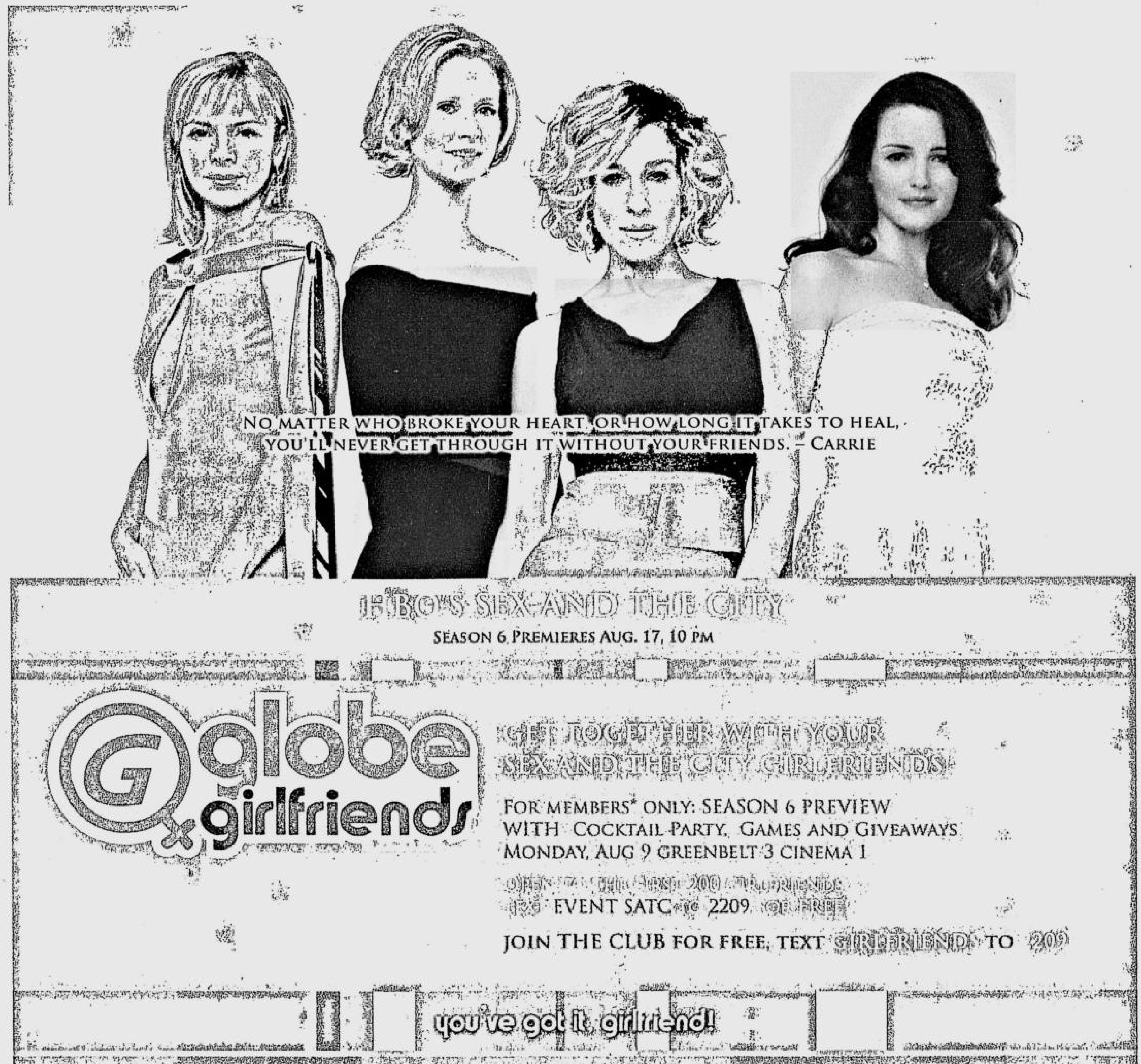

NO MATTER WHO BROKE YOUR HEART, OR HOW LONG IT TAKES TO HEAL, YOU'LL NEVER GET THROUGH IT WITHOUT YOUR FRIENDS. – CARRIE

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The Dalahican Fish Port is the scene of frenzied bidding for the riches of the sea

GO FISH! Local fishing boats, and those that come from as far as Palawan, Bicol and Marinduque, bring in their catch at Dalahican Fish Port in Pagbilao town.

Loudest whisper in Quezon fish port

Text by Cheche V. Moral
Photos by Joan Bondoc

WHILE most of Quezon is in deep slumber, life is abuzz in the Dalahican Fish Port in the town of Pagbilao. It's a drizzly daybreak, but it's business as usual for the fishermen, fish traders and buyers in this otherwise sleepy town.

At 4 a.m., fish trading is at its peak. The voice of a preacher blaring on the PA is drowned by all the noise and commotion.

Fishers spill out their catch on the ground and begin sorting. On one side of the covered structure are the fish brokers' counters, where they're busy filing figures in their ledgers. On the other end are the fishmongers, their wares well laid out on plastic mats and large metal tubs. Outside, there are men all too ready to fill ice chests with coarsely crushed ice.

The stench of fish and the chaos jolt you out of sleepiness better than a quick, cold shower. Momentarily, business is disrupted as our photographer starts clicking away. Some go bonkers. "*Isa pa! Isa pa! Kami naman!*"

Several men and women are in a huddle over barrels of fish, crabs, prawns, whatnot, unmindful of our curious presence. That's how fish is sold here, we learn—*bulungan* style. A fisherman hauls in his catch, wholesale buyers and retailers literally whisper their bid through a *magbubulong*, and when a price is reached, the *magbubulong* announces the highest bid. Business is closed via the fish broker: The winning bidder pays through the fish broker, who in turn pays the fisherman minus a 5-percent commission. This system also allows the fisherman to borrow money in advance from the broker. Fishermen have a *suki* broker or *magsusulit*. The broker employs the *magbubulong*.

What's remarkable about Dalahican is how its denizens find order in the chaos. Bidding price itself is based on *tantyahan*, says one buyer. If the final bid is a tie, the winner is decided through a coin toss. If the final bid happens to be more than the actual cost of the fish, it is considered a draw. Bidding starts all over.

Sure, disputes take place, says Maricel Villanueva, who comes here to buy fresh catch for her smoked-fish business. "*Nagkakapikunan*," she says dryly. "*May mananadyang taasan 'yung* bid *para lang hindi mo makuha*."

Malou Enopia has been a *magsusulit* since 1980, working for the broker MJR Consignacion. The woman is used to the irregular work hours, she says, grinning wryly. "*Nasanay na*."

On a regular day, says Enopia, a fishing boat can haul in about P70,000 worth of fish, depending on the size of the boat. A good day can be up to P500,000.

It must be understood, Enopia adds, that some boats bring in the catch of more than one fisherman. Oftentimes, the boat is rented by the fishermen from its owner. "*Hindi sa kanila lahat mapupunta yung napagbentahan.*"

Several names are marked on Enopia's white board. Those are blacklisted, she explains, for failing to pay repeatedly.

Quezon's rich marine life is a major economic asset. In Dalahican, a good assortment of quality fish is sold at a fraction of their prices in Metro Manila. There are *lapu-lapu*, *samaral*, *maya-maya*, clams, squids, crabs, tiger prawns, and a hodgepodge of strange-looking shellfish and marine products. Chances are, the fish you buy in the metro's wet markets and supermarkets have come from Dalahican. Fishing boats also come from as far as Palawan, and neighboring Bicol and Marinduque.

A *magbubulong*, who requested anonymity, says they're up from 1 a.m.-12 nn (boats don't dock at the same time). She complains many of them are grossly underpaid. "*Ako,* P100 *isang araw. Mabuti na nga yun, eh. Yung iba,* P2,000-P3,000 *isang buwan*," she continues. "*May samahan kami dito. Nasa* (Department of) Labor *na nga yung kaso, eh. Wala pa ring nangyayari.*"

Suddenly she spies her employer walking toward our direction. She panics, mumbling conspiratorially, "*Mamaya na lang tayo magusap, pupuntahan kita dun*," motioning to the other side of the building.

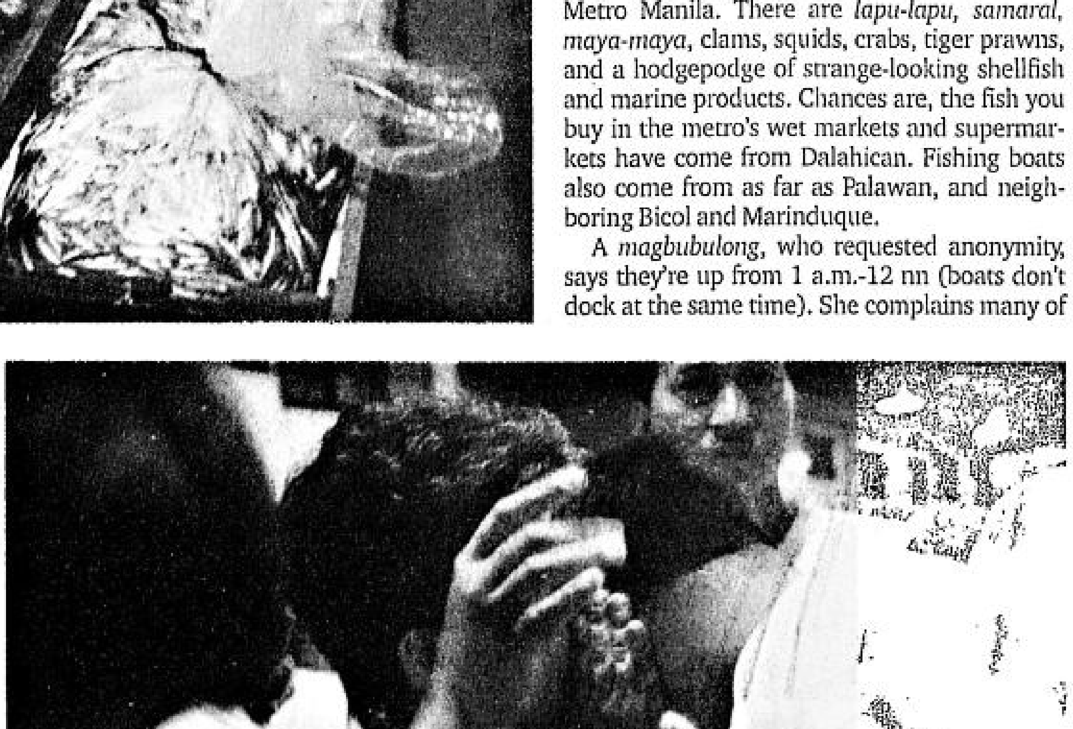
Our group reconvenes, and with our plastic bags filled with *lapu-lapu*, crabs, *maya-maya* and shrimps, we board the car and leave Dalahican. We never see the *magbubulong* again.

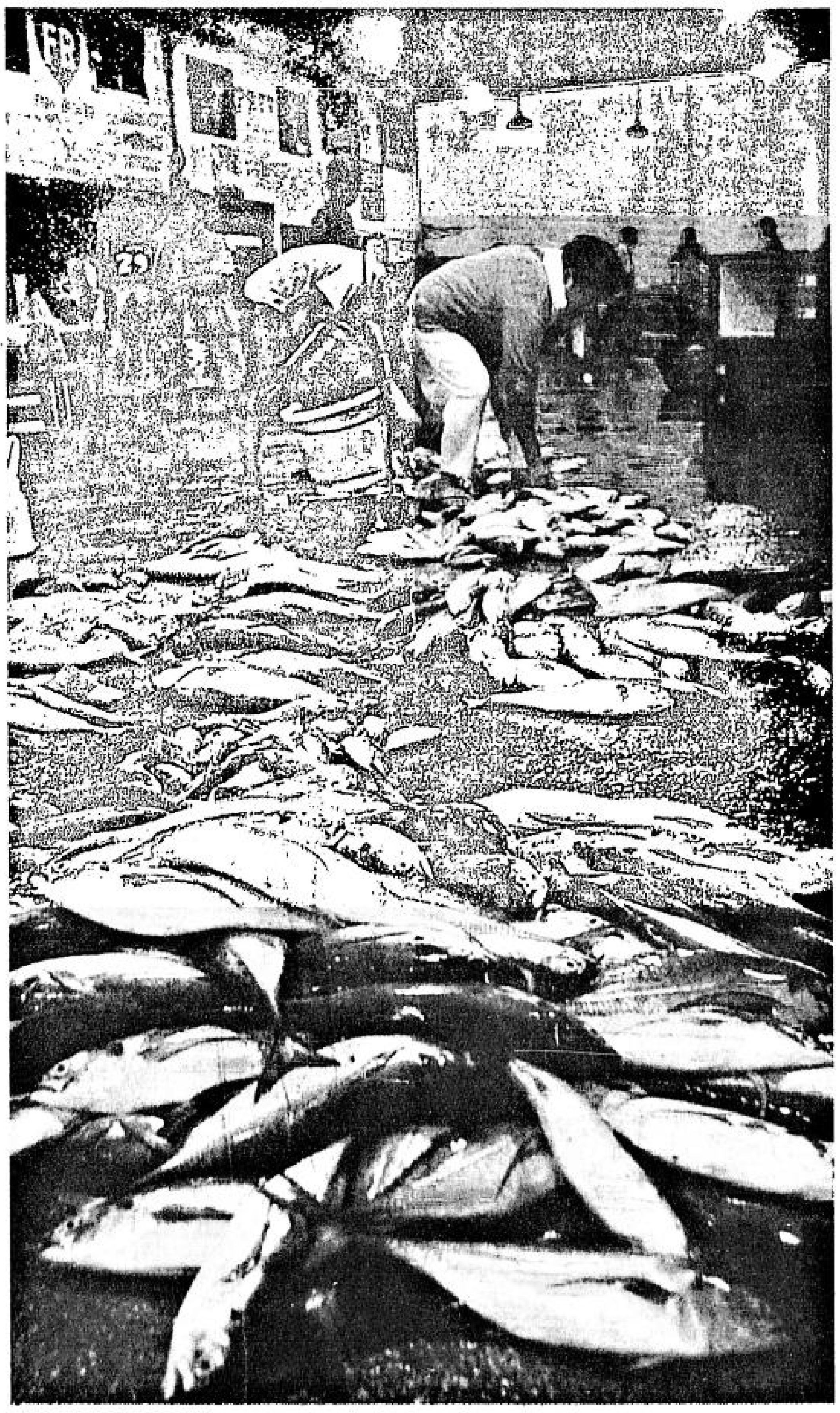
E-mail the author at cmoral@inquirer.com.ph

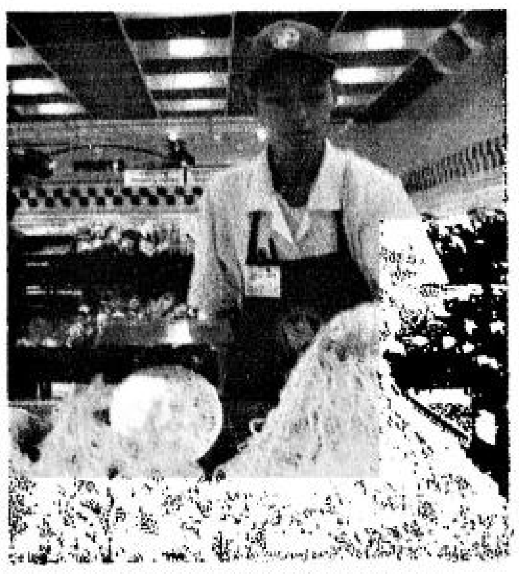
Lifestyle Goes to Quezon was sponsored by SM City Lucena.

FISH BROKER
(TACOMUHO)
FISH BE WITH YOU. This preacher is an unobtrusive presence in the busy port.

GOING, GOING, GONE. Winning bidder hauls the crate away.


SPEAK SOFTLY... Fish is traded *bulungan*-style.


FISHY BUSINESS. Fishmongers sort the day's catch.



MOUNDS of fresh noodles for the well-known Quezon *chami*

Zoom, zoom, Quezon

From page D1

though the late President truly believed that "a national language would foster national unity and national identity," he did not choose his province's native tongue as the basis of the national language. The Institute of National Language recommended the adoption of Tagalog instead.

The folks in Quezon still consider the late President Quezon as a native son of the province even though Baler, his birthplace, is now part of the province of Aurora.

But for a great deal of people, the province named in honor of the late President Quezon, is simply a means to get to where they are going in the south.

Bus stop

To people going to Metro Manila from the Bicol Region, Marinduque and Romblon, and those going in the opposite direction, Quezon has been just another province on the bus route or a place to get onto a ship.

But things appear to be changing, particularly for families, traders, entrepreneurs and others who prefer to do their shopping in Metro Manila because goods are cheaper, have more diversity and are available in large volumes.

The opening last October of SM City Lucena, the chain's 15th supermall, seemed to make people south of Quezon want to stay longer in the province, even dropping altogether any plans to proceed to the metropolitan area. The mall is, so far, the southernmost branch in Luzon of SM.

For mainland Bicolanos, for instance, a mall with almost everything you need and only about five or six hours away from home makes the additional three- or four-hour trip to Metro Manila unnecessary. It is even possible for some, like those from Camarines Sur, to make the shopping expedition a day trip.

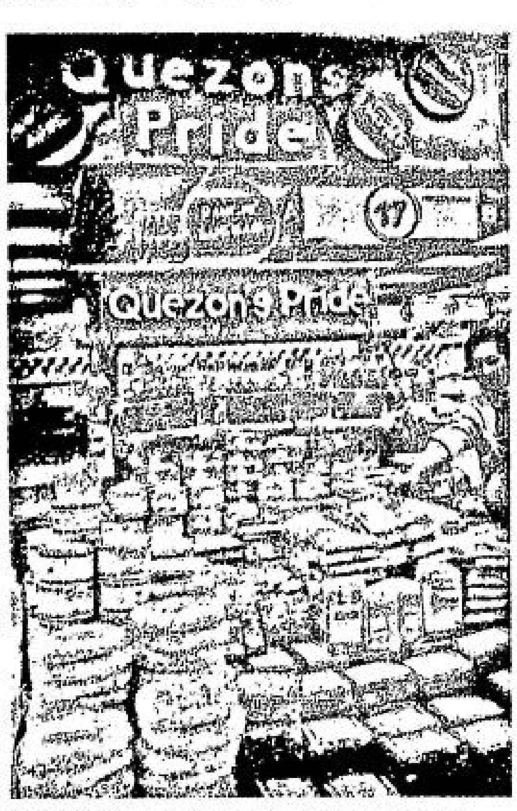
For island dwellers who prefer using Lucena's shipping port instead of traveling all the way from Manila's North Harbor to their provinces, it makes sense to defer your shopping until you get to Lucena instead of lugging stuff all the way from the mětropolis.

Besides, prices will be the same whether you buy items at the Megamall or SM Lucena or any other branch in the country.

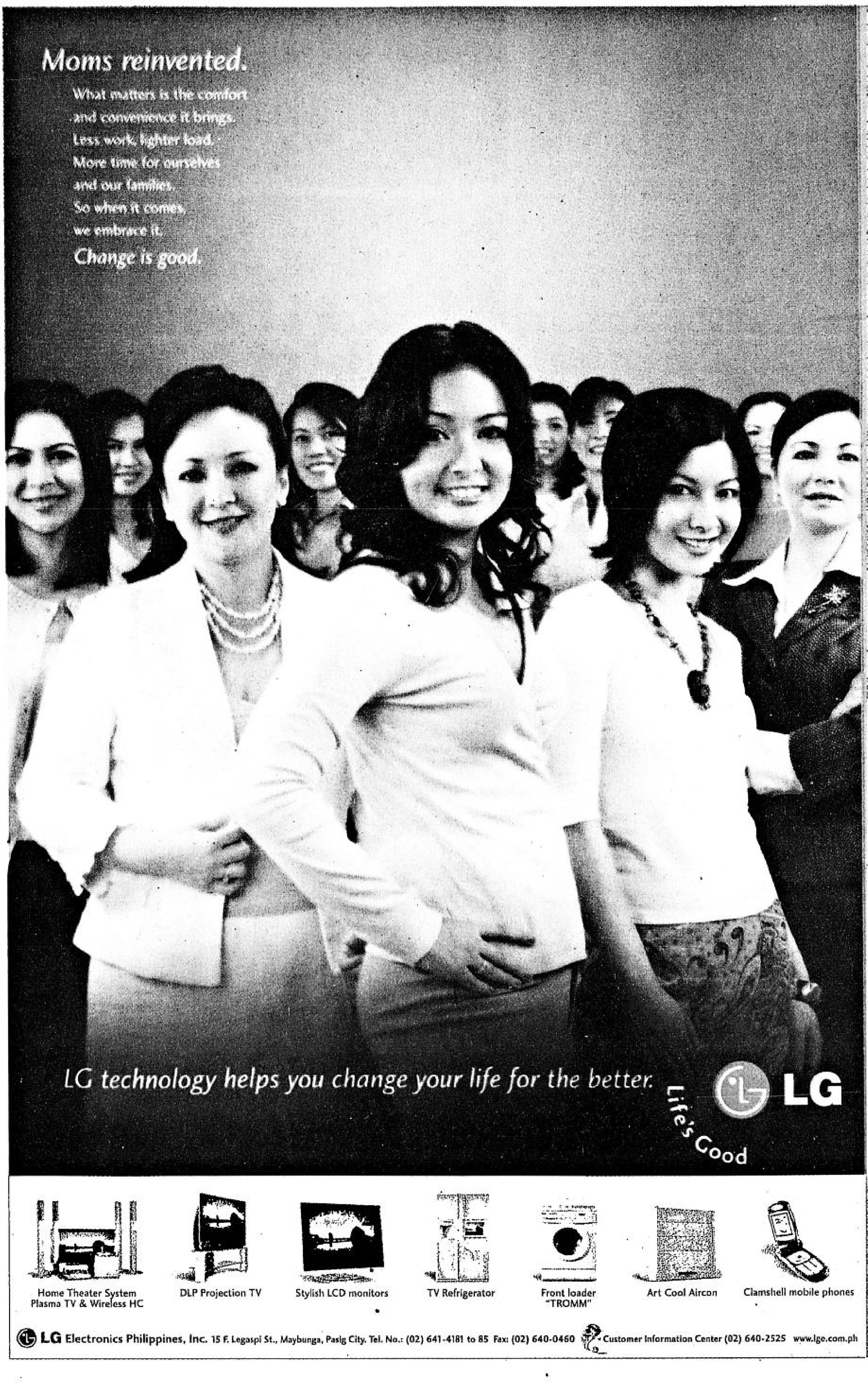
For Lucena, the capital and center of trade, commerce, government, education and financial services of the historic province of Quezon, having the 79,503-sq m mall at the intersection of the Pagbilao National and Dalahican Roads, may yet make it also the center of trade and commerce for the southernmost part of Luzon and nearby island provinces.

THOUGH the architecture adheres closely to the SM blueprint, the mall's façade is yellowish instead of the usual gray.

YOU don't have to get out of SM Lucena to buy a popular Quezon pasalubong—*longanisang* Lucban.


Quezon's Pride
Quezon's Pride

QUEZON'S native products get a special corner at the supermarket where they can't be missed.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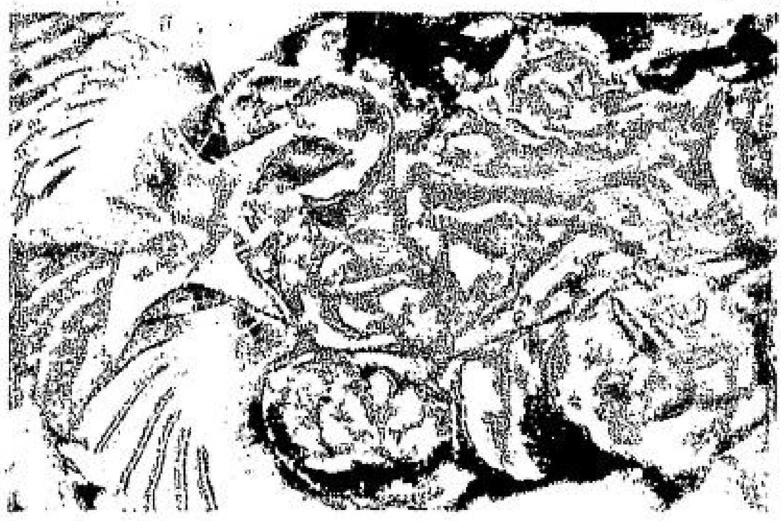


BAKED oysters at Silangang Nayon Park and Restaurant. At right are the resto's most coveted huts, built on stilts on Pagbilao Bay.

Chow time in Quezon

The province is a foodie's heaven, where certain names have broken into the franchise market

Text by Cheche V. Moral
Photos by Joan Bondoc

WHEN in Quezon, take time to discover these homegrown restaurants, both for the food and the setting. INQUIRER Lifestyle checked out a few places that proved dining in the capital Lucena and the adjacent towns is more than a heaping plateful of *pancit* Lucban.

L.C. Big Mak Burger

SM City Lucena food court

Several years ago, this local burger chain, which began operation in 1984, was sued by McDonald's over the use of the name. Big Mak owner Francis Dy maintained the name was derived from his parents Maxima and Kimsuy. He lost. The Court of Appeals later overturned the ruling, and the case is now in the Supreme Court.

In November, Big Mak will celebrate its 20th year with 800-plus kiosks and restaurants nationwide. It recently opened its first mall outlet in SM City Lucena.

Dy and his wife Edna like to say they started their burger business by using the cover of a margarine tub as mold for their homemade burger. Today Big Mak has a high-tech processing plant that makes 80,000 patties daily, 1.5 tons of *siopao* and four tons of hotdog.

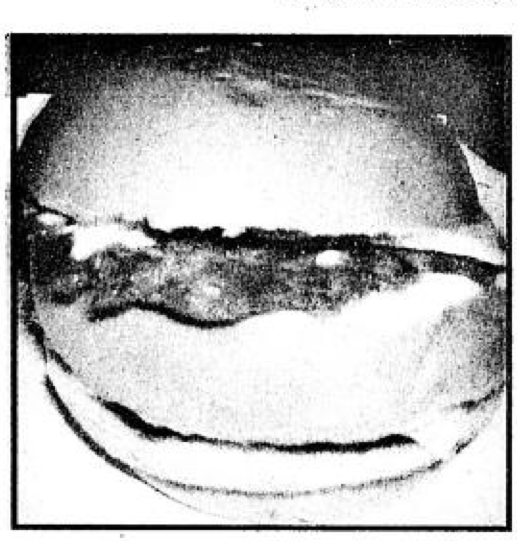
Edna says their tasty and no-frills home-style burger, not to mention the price, appeals to all social classes. The regular burger, for instance, costs about P7 less than those of the more popular brands. Big Mak's 18" hotdog sandwich, which can feed three people, is P55. Big Mak uses only imported beef from Australia, India and Canada. Only *halal* beef burgers are sold in their Mindanao branches. At SM, it also sells pizza, rice meals and Mak Manok, its version of the fried chicken.

Koffee Klatch

2/L SM City Lucena

The same family behind the popular Dealo's Broas opened its first mall branch in SM Lucena. Koffee Klatch is a coffee shop that sells baked goods and other *pasalubong* fare under the Dealo's brand.

In spite of Koffee Klatch's provincial locale, owner Milada Valde conducts her trade with the same professionalism as any big business. If you're not satisfied with any of her products, she would gladly replace it, no questions asked.



L.C. Big Mak's Pinoy-style Twin Decker Burger with cheese and mayo. Below is the fast-food's first mall outlet, in SM Lucena.

PHOTOS: LINDA BOLIDO

Cherry Blossom

2/L SM City Lucena

This Chinese resto was displaced from its Subic branch after the Pinatubo eruption. The owners, natives of Quezon, have a big banquet hall and restaurant in the heart of Lucena. They opened the fast-food outlet in SM for mall-goers to sample their fare at affordable prices.

The menu is a mix of Filipino, Chinese, Japanese, Thai and Korean. Bestsellers are the Chami, Chamisua, Pancit Canton, Beef and Seafood Hofan and CB soup (fish lips with assorted meat).

Buddy's

2/L SM City Lucena

If you just can't have enough of Quezon chow, there's no better place to go in Lucena than Zaldy and Nova Veluz's Buddy's resto in SM City. It offers *pancit* Lucban with a generous topping of *lechon kawali*, and other best sellers like *sisig*, pizza, Lucban *longanisa*, *chami* and *budin*. They take pride in the pork they use, which comes from their own piggery.

Zaldy decided to introduce burgers because he felt *pancit* Lucban may be too run-of-the-mill and "*baduy*" for Quezon diners, but in his SM branch, *pancit* Lucban still tops his best sellers.

Buddy's also has two other branches in Lucena, another in Tayabas, and its main branch in Lucban. For those who can't go all the way to Quezon, Buddy's has two branches in Makati—on Kakarong and Kalayaan streets.

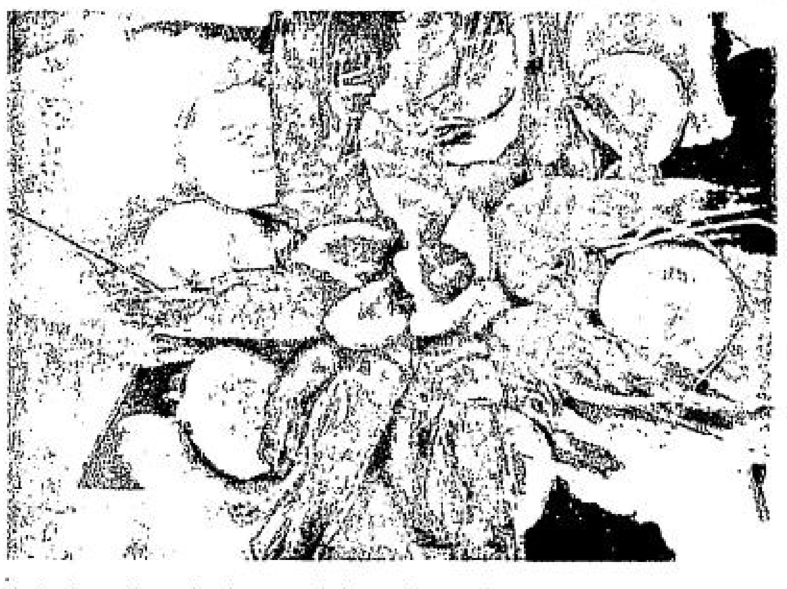
Kamayan sa Palaisdaan

Barangay Dapdap, Tayabas, Quezon; tel. 0917-9510041; 042-7933654; email kampala@quezon.net

After working in Saudi Arabia, Rosauro de los Santos came home to start his own *tilapia*-raising business. Soon, his buyers would ask him to cook the fish he was selling them. That gave him the idea for the now 14-year-old Kamayan sa Palaisdaan.

The resto is actually a series of 50-plus nipa huts that sits on a 2-ha lot, with a seating capacity of 1,000. The huts are "afloat" in a manmade lake with surrounding gardens, where you can even fish for your own meal.

The resto managed by Del Rosario is actually Kamayan's second outlet. The first branch is situated nearby and is managed by a sibling; another sibling also has one in Los Baños.



KAMAYAN sa Palaisdaan's nipa huts floating on a "lake." At left, the restaurant's steamed fresh prawns

Koffee Klatch

KOFFEE Klatch café and bakeshop at SM Lucena

Del Rosario serves typical Quezon dishes like *pako* salad and *pinangat*. Grilled *tilapia* is a staple; he serves 300 kg of the fish daily, harvested from his own fishpond.

Silangang Nayon Park and Restaurant

Barangay Bantigue, Pagbilao, Quezon; tel. 042-7311924/25, 0919-4420042

Mary Ann Pardilla says her brother bought the grassy land on a cliff overlooking Pagbilao Bay a few years ago. At first he had a single hut built where he and his friends would go drinking. After a year and good word-of-mouth advertising, Silangan is now in full swing with 25 huts, despite its locations—8 km from Lucena City and another 8 km from the highway. The most coveted are the three huts set up in stilts on the bay.

Dishes are mostly seafood cooked Filipino and Chinese style. Its extensive menu includes scallops, pigeons, oysters, *lapu-lapu* cooked in variety of ways—fried, baked, grilled. It is open 10 a.m.-10 p.m.

The Pardillas have also made it their cause to save the turtles in the area, buying turtles caught by local fishermen and setting them free in an enclosed area in the bay. They also have other wild and farm animals in their mini park.

Ugu Bigyan's Café Casa Rap

Barangay Lusacan, Tiaong, Quezon; telefax 042-5459144/58689

For a truly hearty native fare, a must-stop in Tiaong is potter Ugu Bigyan's café, located in the compound where he has his Mexican-inspired home and workshop. The thatched-roofed huts offer a relaxing break from a long drive, with reclining chairs and big fluffy pillows for napping.

The café is open for lunch daily at P350 per head. Reservations must be made with a minimum of five persons.

Mainstays on the menu (if you're lucky, Bigyan will whip them up himself) are the *kilawon* (banana heart salad) and *pako* salad, beautifully presented with the edible purple flower, *ternate*.

If it's your second visit inform the café in advance so they can whip up a different menu.

Dishes may include fresh mussels cooked with mustard leaves, squid *sisig*, grilled *tilapia* (Quezonians take pride in their *tilapia*, raised in clean and unpolluted water from the springs of Mt. Banahaw).

Luisa's

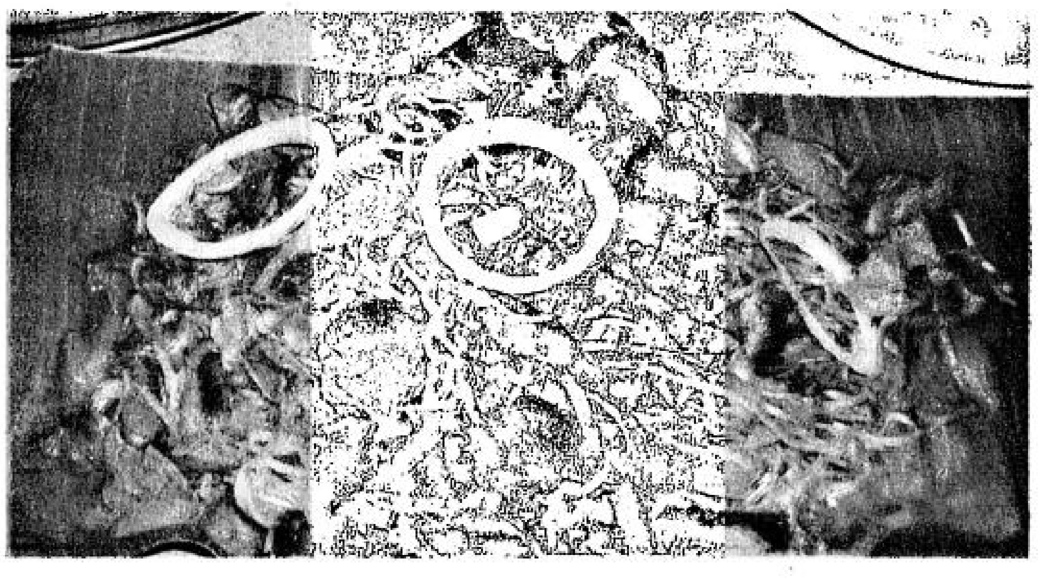
Lucena City

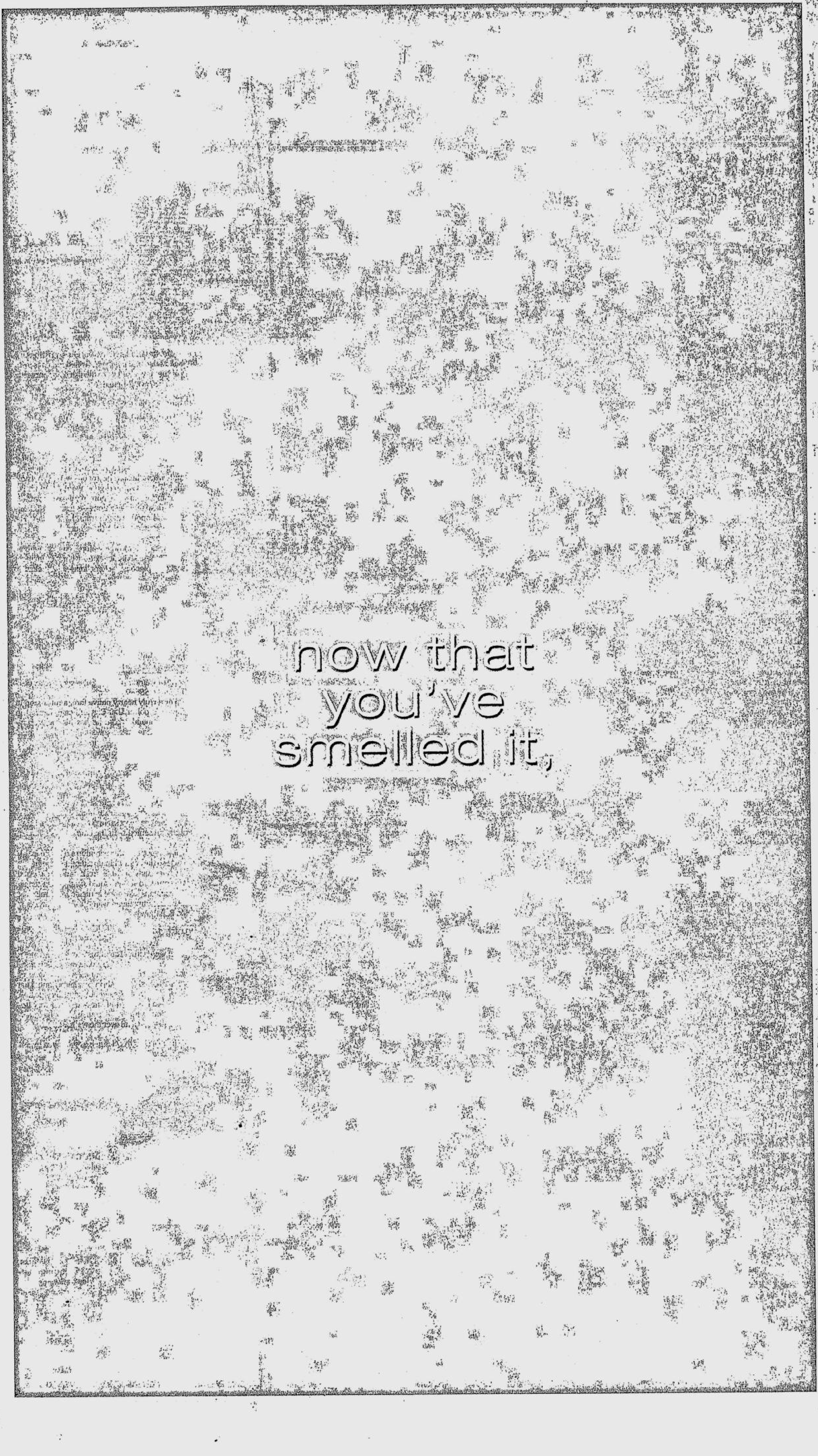
We were either too hungry for the late lunch or the food at Luisa's was really good. This resto cum gallery serves the yummiest crispy *tadyang* (beef ribs), sizzling shrimp salpicao and Thai *pancit* (like fresh *lumpia* but with spicy peanut sauce) we have had of late—and in a very unpretentious setting. Of course, they have artworks displayed all over the walls.

Lifestyle Goes to Quezon was sponsored by SM City Lucena.

BUDDY'S best-selling *longsilog*, featuring Lucban *longanisa*, and *pancit* Lucban

PHOTOS: LINDA BOLIDO




now that you've smelled it,

THE SECRET to crispier *broas* is in drying them for about two hours before baking them again.

DEALO'S treats also include *apas, galletas, camachile, pianono, inipit.*

Lovin' Lucban's lady fingers

Text by Allison W. Lopez
Photos by Linda Bolido

The city's only remaining Neoclassical 'bahay na bato' has been home to the province's leading makers of export-quality 'broas' for decades

INSIDE the century-old stone walls of Lucban's La Casa de Doña Ana, gloved workers in crisp white lab gowns scurry about its sterile interiors in the dead of night. Hardly any whispers can be heard, just the soft whirring of mixers being used to create one of the city's renowned delicacies—sweet, crunchy *broas*, or toasted lady finger biscuits.

Owned by the Dealo family, the city's only remaining Neoclassical *bahay na bato* has been home to the province's leading makers of export-quality *broas* for decades.

"We were the first in Quezon," says Milada Dealo-Valde, citing their 45 years of making delicious biscuits.

Dealo began in 1958 with her father Marcelo Dealo, who started a small business manufacturing traditional Pinoy biscuits in Lucban, his hometown. Nearly 20 years later, Dealo Industries Inc. was established, and until now, it remains a family corporation.

Koffee Klatch, which Milada began in 1970 as a canteen serving Dealo employees, is now the company's storefront for its cakes and pastries.

The bakeshop around the corner soon grew to four more branches in the capital city of Lucena, one each at Pagbilao and Tayabas, plus the main store at Lucban. Koffee Klatch outlets, which house all Dealo goodies, have dine-in areas for those who go for instant pastry gratification.

In the *pasalubong* category, the Dealo brand is everywhere. Name it, and they've most likely got it: *apas* (thin biscuits), *galletas* (egg cracklets), *camachile* (crunch cookies), *rosquillos* (ring biscuits), *quadritos* (square crackers), *pantostado* (butter toast bread), *señorita* (glazed biscuits), *hojaldres* (flaky biscuits), *bravo* (round biscuits). The list will surely go on as the homegrown company continues to develop new products.

Their goods have penetrated Abu Dhabi, US, Canada and London. But their *broas*, known abroad as lady fingers, remains the bestseller in and out of the country.

Difference in texture

Valde points out that the difference between their Lucban *broas* and Iloilo's lies in the texture. The Lucban *broas* are crispier and less brittle, so it's more likely you'd get whole lady fingers and not castrated ones.

Their secret? Airdrying. After baking the *broas* for the first time, they are left to dry in room temperature for two hours, after which they are baked again. This is to prevent moisture from destroying the quality of the biscuits.

The daily grind runs from 7 p.m-7 a.m. Work is done until daylight to ensure freshness upon delivery. Two batches of seven workers each have to fill about 200 medium cans and 100 big cans of *broas* daily. Some 3,000-4,000 whole eggs a day are used to make the biscuits.

"Modesty aside, we consider ourselves the leader in this kind of biscuit here in Quezon. We command 50 percent of the market share as proven by our sales network and marketing strategies. We deliver to schools, groceries, supermarkets, malls, cooperatives, local stores, bus terminals," says Valde's daughter Miliza, who was once CEO and president of Dealo Industries but resigned to focus on Koffee Klatch. Now her cousin Jennifer Dealo Fajelagutan sits at the helm.

The famous Lucban delicacy sells most briskly during the Pahiyas and Christmas seasons.

The Dealos' business philosophy? "What I can eat, we sell. What I cannot eat, we don't sell," says Valde.

Frozen 'budin'

The most recent Dealo bestseller is the frozen *budin*. With the support of the Department of Science and Technology, the company now makes *budin*, or cassava cake, that lasts for 60 days, unlike the typical homemade *budin* which is good for a week at most.

LADY FINGERS follow the same simple recipe for sponge cake, says Dealo operations manager Miliza Valde.

"The DOST helped us revise parts of our process in making *budin*," says Miliza, a chemical engineer who is in charge of the company's operations.

Stored in microwaveable containers, the frozen *budin* has been exported to South Korea since May and is doing well. Two minutes of heat is all it takes for the *budin* to soften and melt sweetly in the mouth.

Exporting is really the way to go, says Valde. "*Iba talaga ang balik.*"

Since the younger Dealos also wanted to modernize and reach out to a different market, they opened a branch in SM Lucena (their newest) "*dahil mahuhuli daw kami*," she explains.

At 62, the spirited businesswoman is undeterred as ever. So don't be surprised if, one of these days, Lucban *broas* will be up there with Danish pastries and English muffins as some of the world's most popular tea time treats.

The Dealo Manila office is located at 87 CRM Nancy St., BF Homes, Almanza, Las Pinas City. Call 8015548, fax 8055843 or e-mail dealo@philonline.com.ph; The manufacturing plant is at 110 Quezon Avenue Lucban, Quezon. Call (6342) 5404305 or fax (6342) 5407103. Visit www.dealo.net or www.sme.com.ph/dealo

Lifestyle Goes to Quezon was sponsored by SM City Lucena.

The long and short of it

DEALO'S Milada Valde shows how to make a really long Lucban *longanisa*. LINDA BOLIDO

"*DAPAT* 'short-*ganisa*' *na ang tawag dito*," says Dealo's Milada Valde while knotting the *longanisang* Lucban's *buri* string. She gestures how long the famed Pinoy sausage used to be (around three inches), and how it was hung in windows to be dried and displayed during the Pahiyas feast.

Today's *longanisang* Lucban may be short and sweet, but it is not any less addicting. The secret lies in the juice of oregano leaves, says Milada. The juice of oregano leaves? Yes, she replies, adding that the oregano has plenty of squeeze to offer.

The ingredients are easy to acquire: pork, pepper, chopped garlic, salt, *kinatas na* oregano and paprika. She adds the seasonings to the pork and mixes it by hand. "*Mas maraming* garlic, *mas masarap*," she says.

After blending the ingredients well, she uses a small funnel to shape and insert the meat into a long strip of dried pork intestine, and waits till the meat fills around two inches. She ties the ends with fine *buri* string (yes, the one used in making hats). "We prefer to use this than thread. It's organic and also edible," Milada says.

She proceeds to explain how the *longanisa* ought to be cooked.

"In a small amount of water, cook the *longanisa* in low heat. You don't have to use oil since the pork fat will produce its own," she says. Then, prick the *longanisa* using a fork to release its natural oils.

The result? Juicy and sumptuous pockets of meat covered in crispy pork skin, basking in its own rich, fatty oil. Umm-ummm. Perfect with *sinangag* and sunny side-up eggs.

Is there a special vinegar concoction that goes with it? Milada says she doesn't use any, because she sees no need. We can't help but agree.

Allison W. Lopez

***BUDIN*-MAKERS** **Chabing Abordo and Cora Abordo Reyes (with great grandchild)** PHOTOS: LINDA BOLIDO

Sticking together for family and delicacy

LIKE the "sticky" cassavas they lovingly make, the Abordo family sticks together and never lets the vagaries of business get in the way.

At "Kalye Budin" on E. Jacinto Street, Barangay San Diego, Tayabas, Quezon, Cora Abordo Reyes and Chabing Abordo have competing stalls selling their signature *budin*. But the 64-year-old Cora, the eldest of the Abordo siblings, can also be seen lazing around at her *hipag*'s sofa, nuzzling her 6-month-old *apo sa tuhod* (great grandchild).

"*Ako ang nagturo kay* Apolonio at Chabing *kung paano gumawa ng budin*," says Cora, who learned how to make the sweet cassava cake from merely watching *budin*-makers at the market. In 1972, she started making and selling her own concoction under the brand name "Cora's." Two years later, her brother and his wife followed suit and put up Chabing's.

Now, packed in a small street, are Adora's, Sonia's, Salud's, Rhea's and Siony's stores—each one selling its own versions of *budin* and *nilupak* (cassava paste). These small businesses thrive well, as local and foreign tourists flock to the place to have a taste of these homemade goodies. Just whisper the magic words "Kalye Budin" to your friendly Tayabas driver and your wish will be granted.

"*Napaaral na namin ang mga anak namin dahil dito*," says Chabing proudly. Her three kids are either in college or working in Manila. The family used to live upstairs but, thanks to the business, they now make their home in a nearby subdivision.

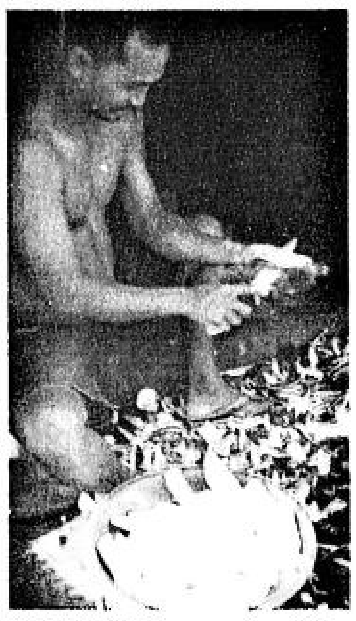
The Reyeses, meanwhile, live in an extension of the same place. Cora has actually retired, but her 44-year-old son Ronnie, who has been managing the business for a decade, is continuing her mom's legacy by retaining the brand name.

Unlike his Tita Chabing, who makes only *budin*, Ronnie also makes *nilupak* and employs a handful of people to help him. "*Mas mahirap gawin ang nilupak kaysa budin at kailangan ng dagdag na tao*," he says, explaining why his aunt didn't bother to make such. Strong arms are needed in making *nilupak*, which is mashed to a fine texture using old-fashioned grinders.

In making *budin*, Chabing does the mixture while her husband bakes the *budin* in the *pugon*, or the traditional oven. It takes around two hours to cook the *budin*. A strong fire is used at first, then low heat.

Same formula

Since the recipe was handed down by his mom, it's only natural that Ronnie uses the same formula as his aunt's. Their family recipe is what differs them from the other stores. "*Pero may idinagdag akong* secret ingredient *na 'di alam ni* Tita, *at nagwo*-work *naman*," he says, laughing.



PERFECTO Reyes peels off the skin from the *kamoteng kahoy*, which he sells for P1.50 each.

Other than that, it's a solid partnership between the relatives. Ronnie recalls the time when a typhoon destroyed the crops and lowered the yield of cassava. "*Nagkampihan kami siyempre kasi nagkakaagawan at sulutan na ng* supply *ng kamoteng kahoy*," he says.

Among Cora's four kids, all of whom have finished college, it was only Ronnie who came back to Quezon to carry the family torch, so to speak. Things have never been better for the family since.

Between the two delicacies, Ronnie says *budin* is more saleable than *nilupak*. This is because *nilupak* has to be consumed within the day it is cooked or it spoils. *Budin* is good for two days when sealed in plastic (at P22 per pack), and three days when in carton (P24). *Nilupak* costs a peso higher (P25) due to its cumbersome preparation and shorter shelf life.

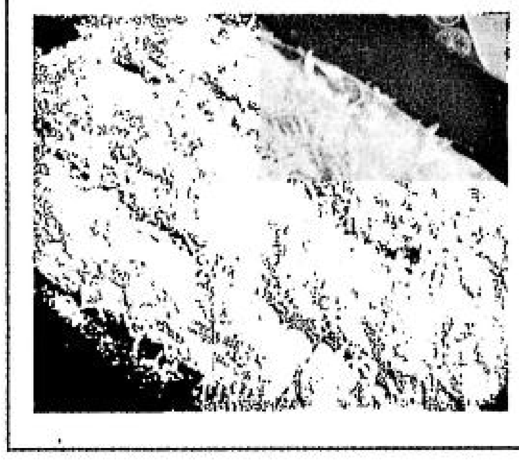
Others, though, prefer the cheese-topped *nilupak* to the much sweeter *budin*. The *nilupak* mixture has margarine, cream and a sprinkling of sugar. *Budin* contains milk and eggs aside from cheese and margarine.

Ronnie believes the business will continue to do well years from now, and dreams of bringing their goodies to Manila. "*Marami na rin ang nagtatanong sa Manila*," he says.

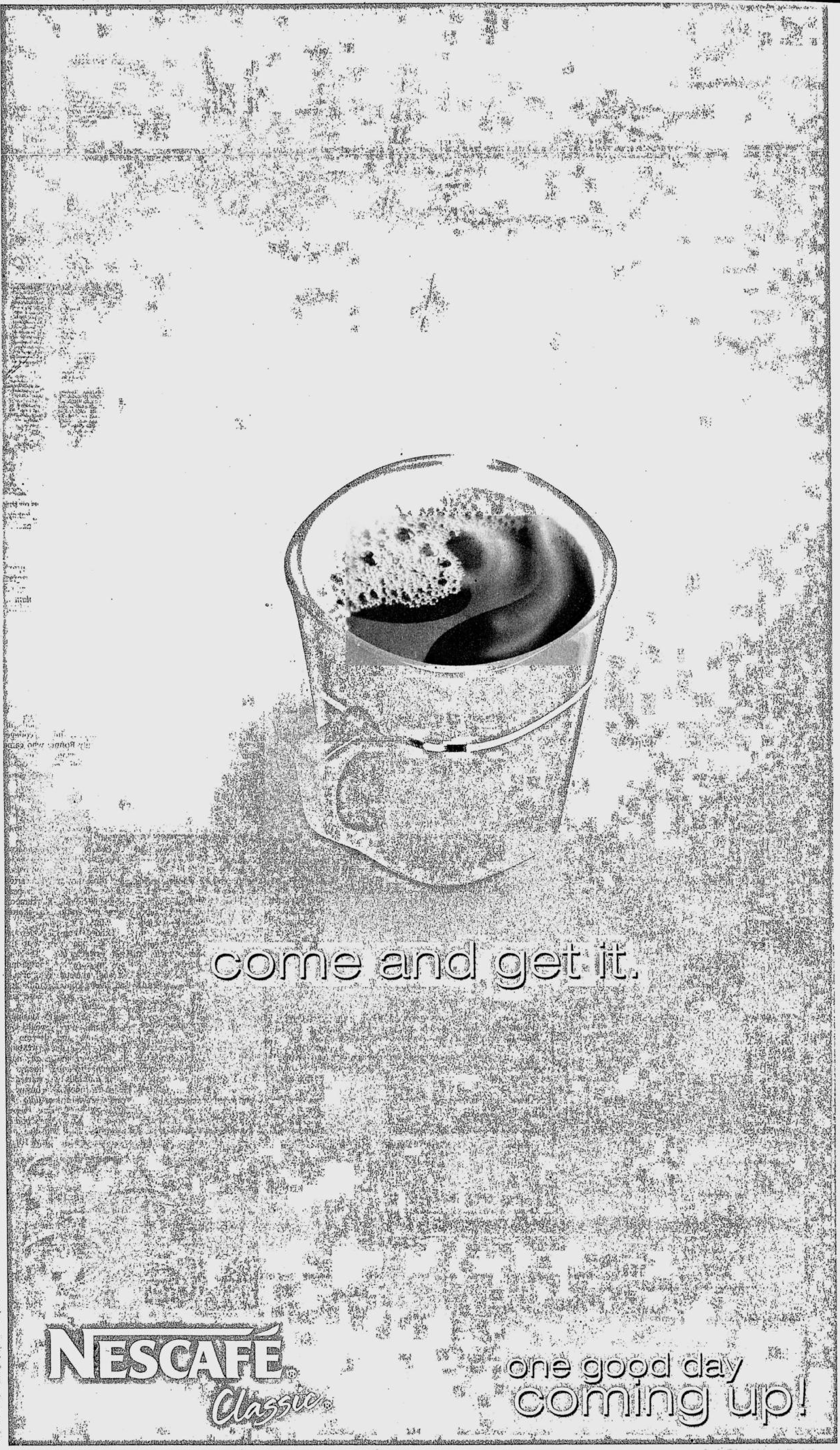
His four kids have started to learn the ropes of the business. And with an *apo sa tuhod* already waiting in line, there's no doubt Aling Cora's *budin*-making legacy will live on.

Allison W. Lopez

COOKED *budin* or cassava cake ready for packaging



THE SUBTLY sweet, cheese-topped *nilupak*, another cassava delicacy
JOAN BONDOC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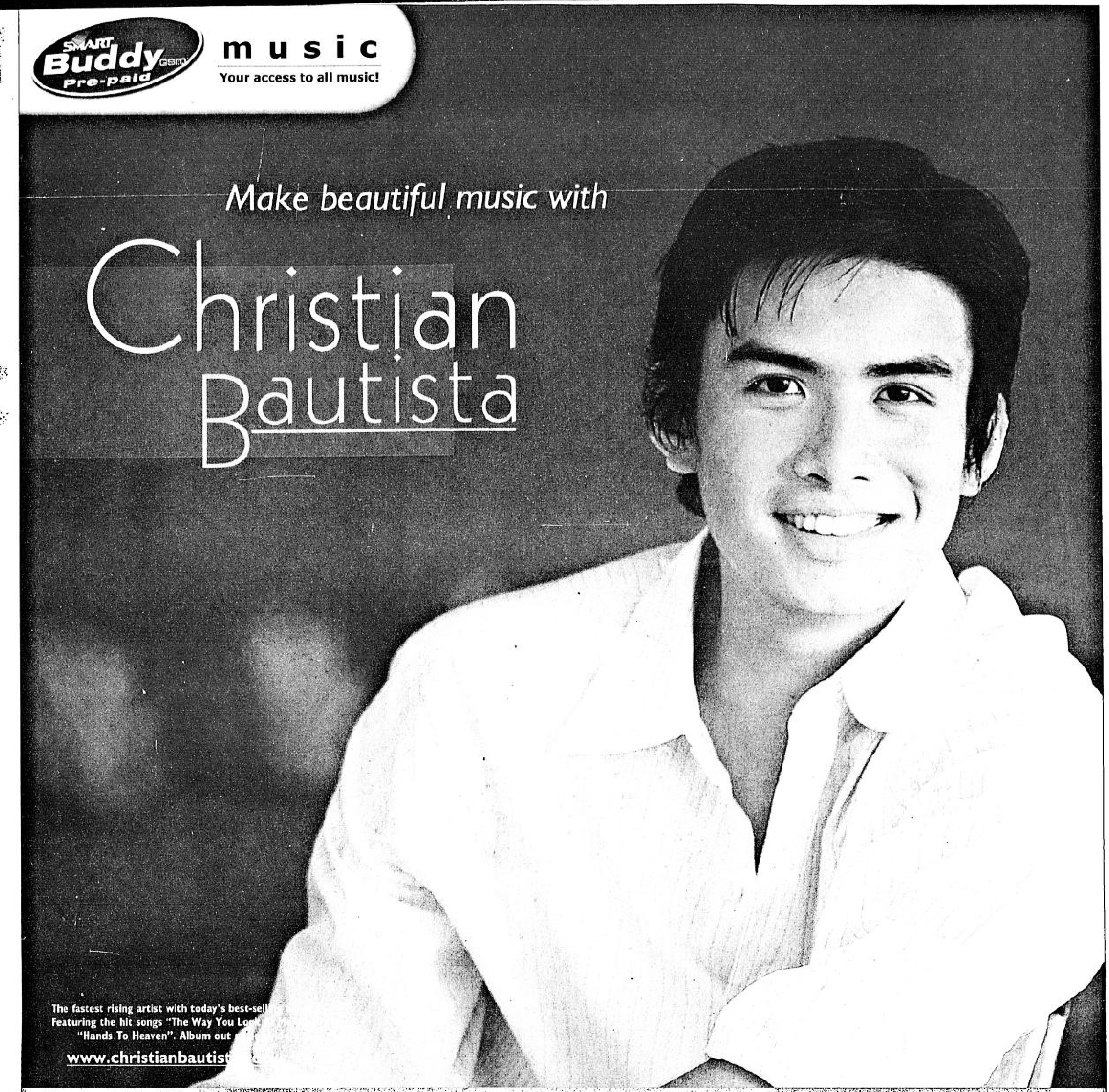
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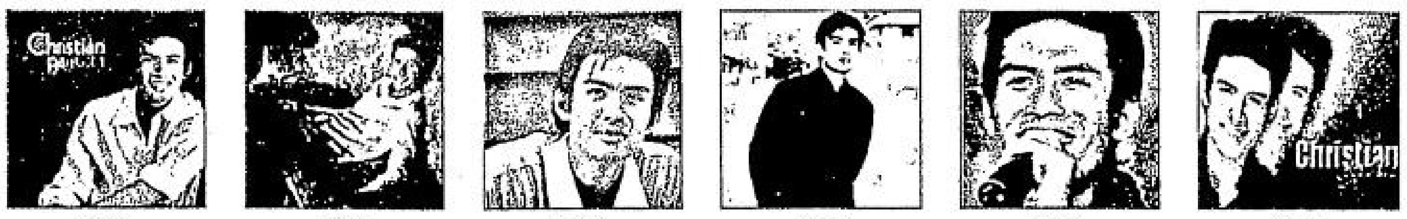
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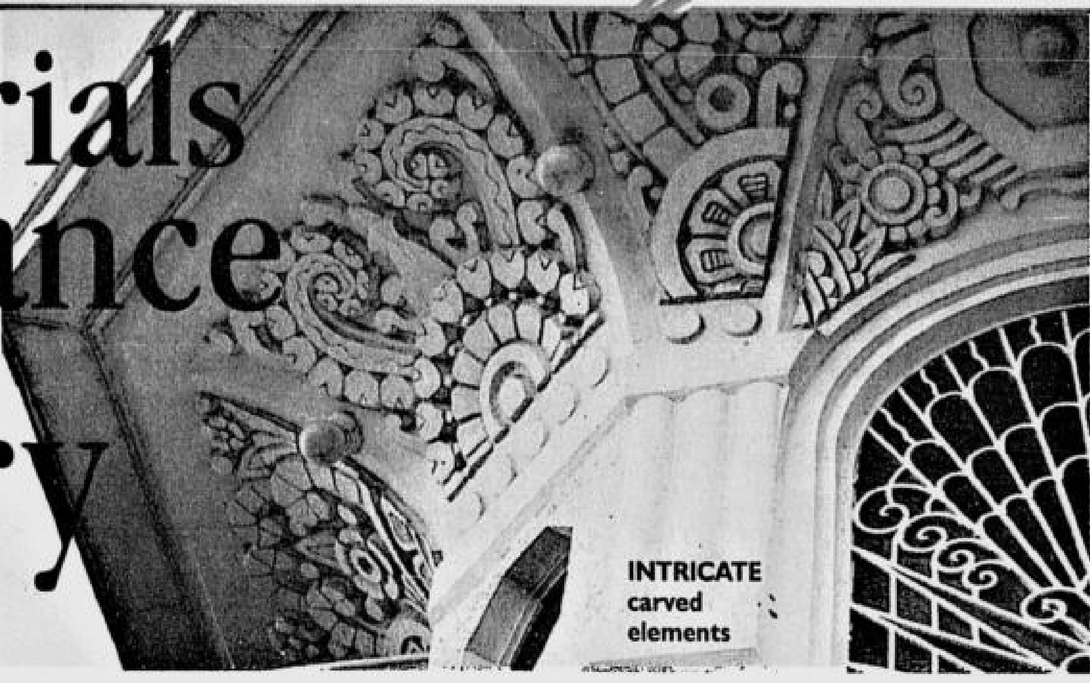

INTRICATE carved elements

Text by Alex Y. Vergara
Photos by Joan Bondoc

APART from its natural bounties, Quezon is also a land rich in art and history. This can best be gleaned in the province's old, sprawling houses, a number of which date back before the Commonwealth period.

Of course, not a few of these structures have seen better days and are badly in need of a makeover. But two old houses—one in the town of Sariaya, the other in the city of Lucena—have stood the test of time and, as silent witnesses to the province's history, carry with them stories from the romantic past.

These homes also remind us that land and politics played—and are still playing—crucial roles in shaping the country's future. The Rodriguez house on Rizal Street in Sariaya, for instance, was built in the 1930s out of the family's modest fortune from coconuts.

Designed by National Artist Juan Nakpil, the two-story structure, with double doors, Art Deco touches, French provincial furniture pieces and high ceiling, now belongs to Gladiola Arguelles-Cabuñag, sole heir of the late Carmen Rodriguez-Arguelles, and her family.

"Japanese officers occupied this house during the war," says Cabuñag, who wasn't even born then. "The family stayed in the first floor, while the Japanese lived upstairs."

A trap door in the kitchen leads to a cellar, where Cabuñag's grandparents hid Carmen from a Japanese general who fell in love with her. As the war progressed, other members of the family also found themselves staying most of the time there.

To this day, Cabuñag and her husband Roger and their three sons have yet to completely organize the cellar. Books, papers, old leather suitcases and furniture pieces have been roped off from the rest of the room. On one corner is a vintage safe waiting to be opened, as Carmen brought the safe's combination with her to her grave.

"When my mother was alive," says Cabuñag, "she'd always regale us with stories about this house, especially war stories. I didn't pay much attention to her, but she found a ready listener in my eldest son, Royce."

Disasters

Royce wrote down most of his grandmother's accounts, including the many disasters that befell the house. One such disaster came when the Americans bombed the house. But the house and its occupants escaped unscathed.

"Since the house became identified with the enemy," Cabuñag explains, "the Americans had targeted it. It was a good thing the family had enough time to evacuate after being tipped off about it."

The first bomb exploded in the front gate. The second one blasted a deep hole behind the house that later became the site of a swimming pool.

The third bomb, however, hit the roof and went into the stairwell and got caught between the banisters. For some reason, it didn't explode, but that wasn't the end of it.

While Carmen's younger sister, the gregarious Exal, was dancing with an American officer during a welcome party for him and his men sometime later, she chided him for dropping a dud. She was said to have spoken in a language reminiscent of today's *kolehiyala* English. Exal said: "Your bombs are no good. One of them found its way in the house, and it didn't make pum-pum."

No further translation was needed. The Americans had the music stopped and, upon learning that the bomb was still in the house's garage, asked everyone to leave the premises. After retrieving it, the "live" bomb was sent to Lucena, where it was detonated.

The bomb did serve a purpose. While nearly all of the big houses in Sariaya were stripped of their furniture by looters soon after the war, the Rodriguez residence was spared. How come? No one, aside from family members, would dare enter the house for fear that the bomb might explode.

Thus, the original furniture pieces designed by Gonzalo Puyat are still with the family. Most of them have now been reupholstered, as the original *sulihiya* rotted after the chairs were thrown into the pool to save them from a big fire, which nearly razed the house in the 1960s. Now, that's a different story.

"Three families now look after this house," says Cabuñag. "To defray the cost of hiring them, we've decided to open the pool to the public and lease part of the land to a restaurant."

The family had Carmen's full story written

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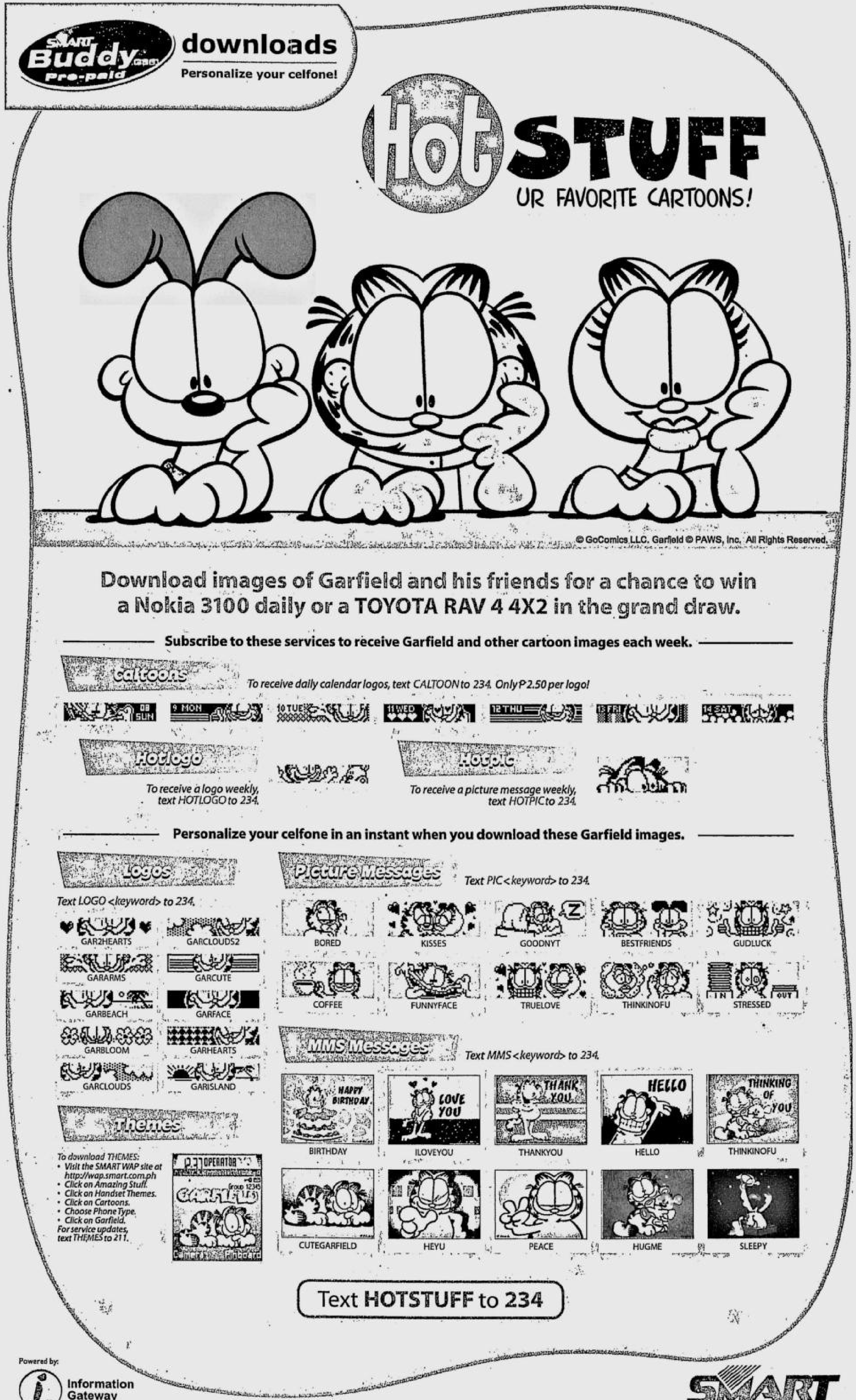

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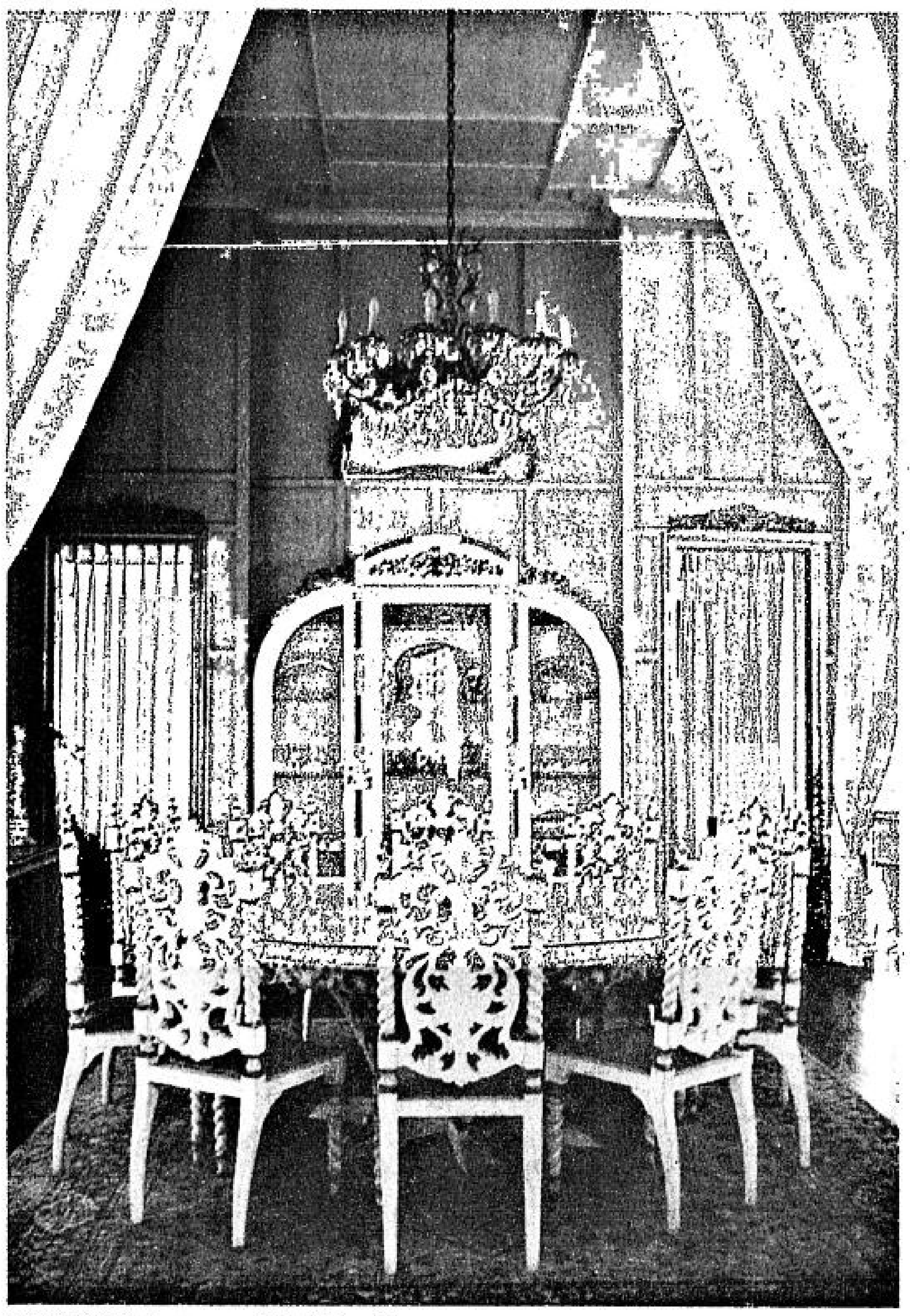
The Rodriguez house in Sariaya and the Quebral residence in Lucena are rich evocations of deep heritage

IMAGE of the Virgin Mary in the Rodriguez chapel

THE MASTER bedroom of the Rodriguez home as reflected in a dresser mirror

ENTRANCE to a historic house



UPSTAIRS dining room with its high ceiling

Memorials to romance and history

From page E1

by Royce printed and distributed to visitors. The ancestral home is still livable, but the Cabuñags now stay most of the time in Manila. Group visits can be arranged through tel. nos. 6332984 and 6310378.

Lucena showcase

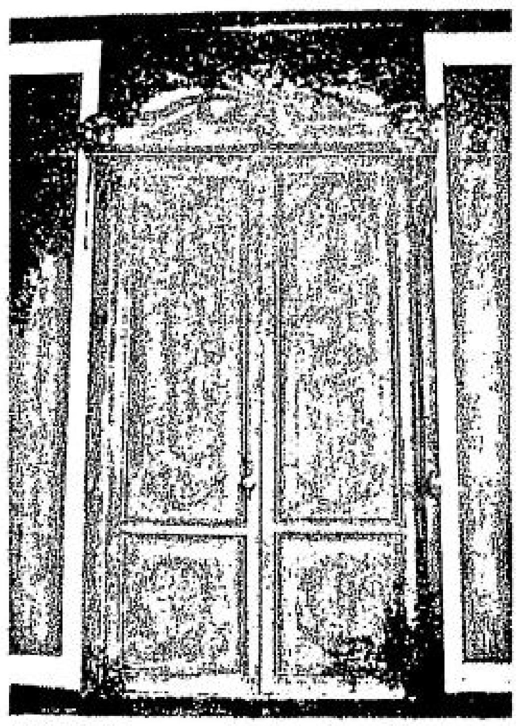
The former Quebral residence on Bonifacio Street in Lucena, which now belongs to the late Venancio Quebral's great grandchildren—Caloy Zoleta, Totoy Zoleta and Milagros Garcia—also has a number of stories to tell.

Caloy Zoleta, like Cabuñag, has chosen to live elsewhere. Eldest son Mark and his family now occupy the house's second floor. The first floor, which used to be the garage, has been converted commercially.

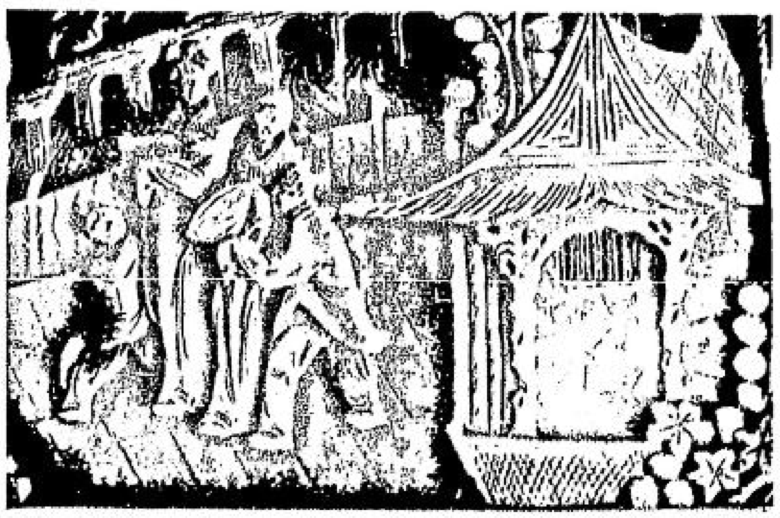
Zoleta has no idea how old the house is, but he won't be surprised if it's now almost a hundred years old. He used his late grandmother as a gauge.

"My siblings and I all grew up here," he says. "My late grandmother was already in her early 80s when she passed away. She had been living in this very same house since she

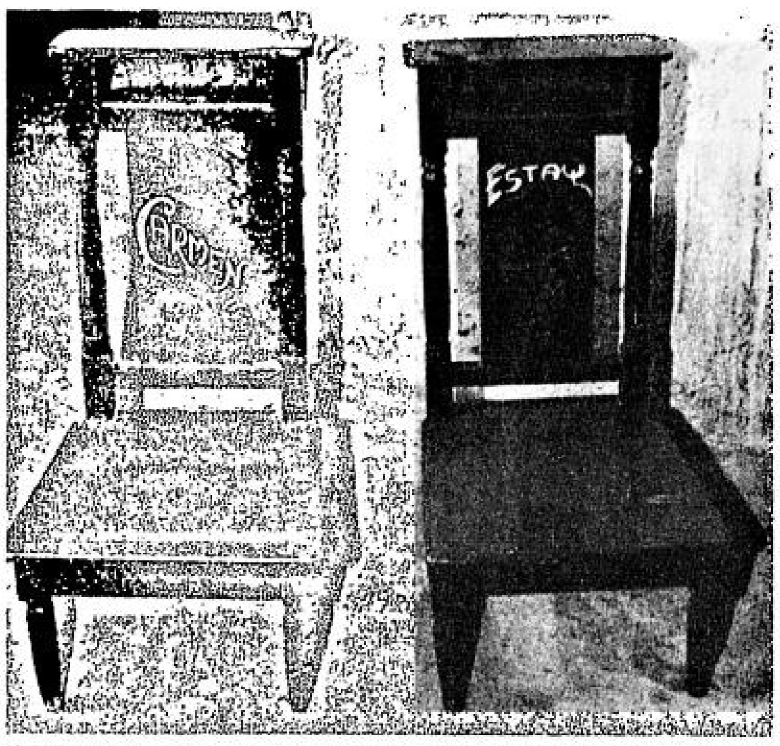
MEMORIALS/ E3



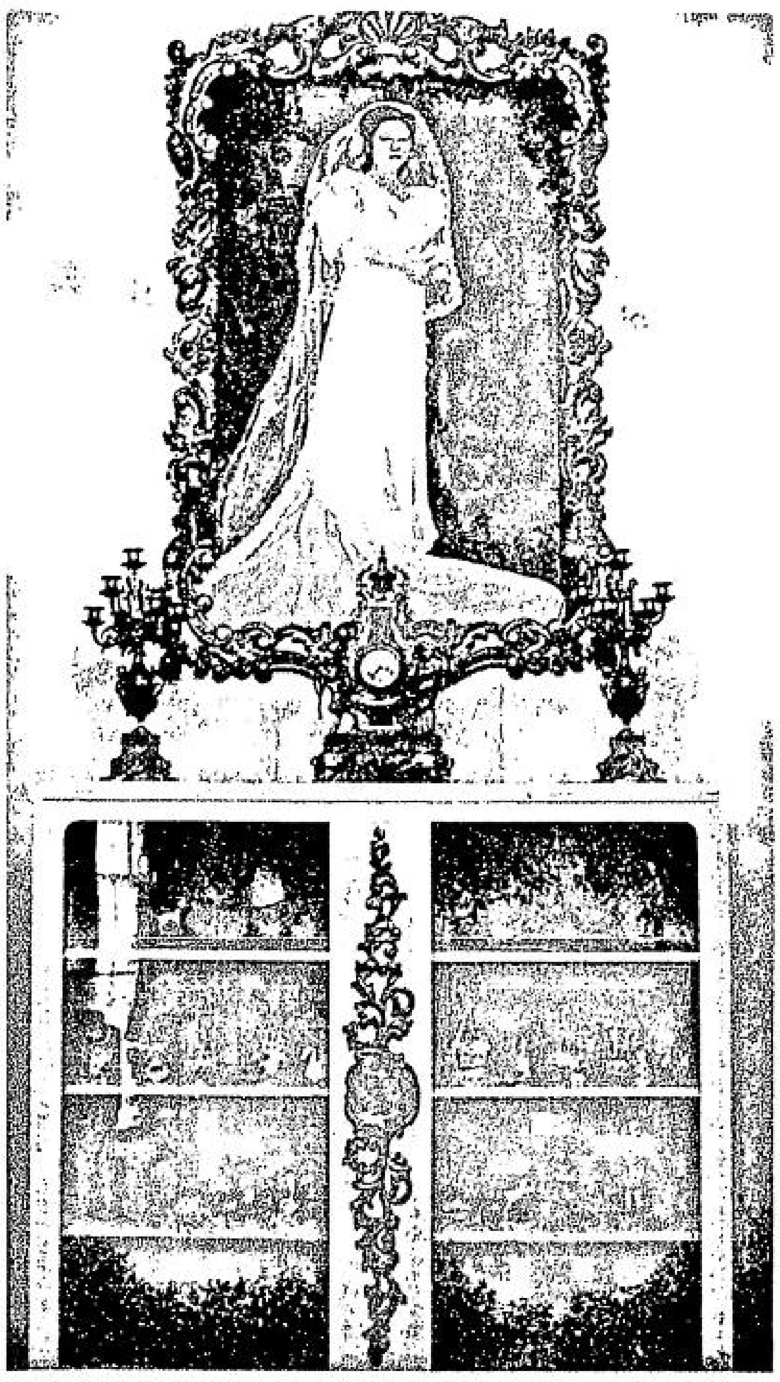
DOUBLE doors made of hardwood at the Quebral residence



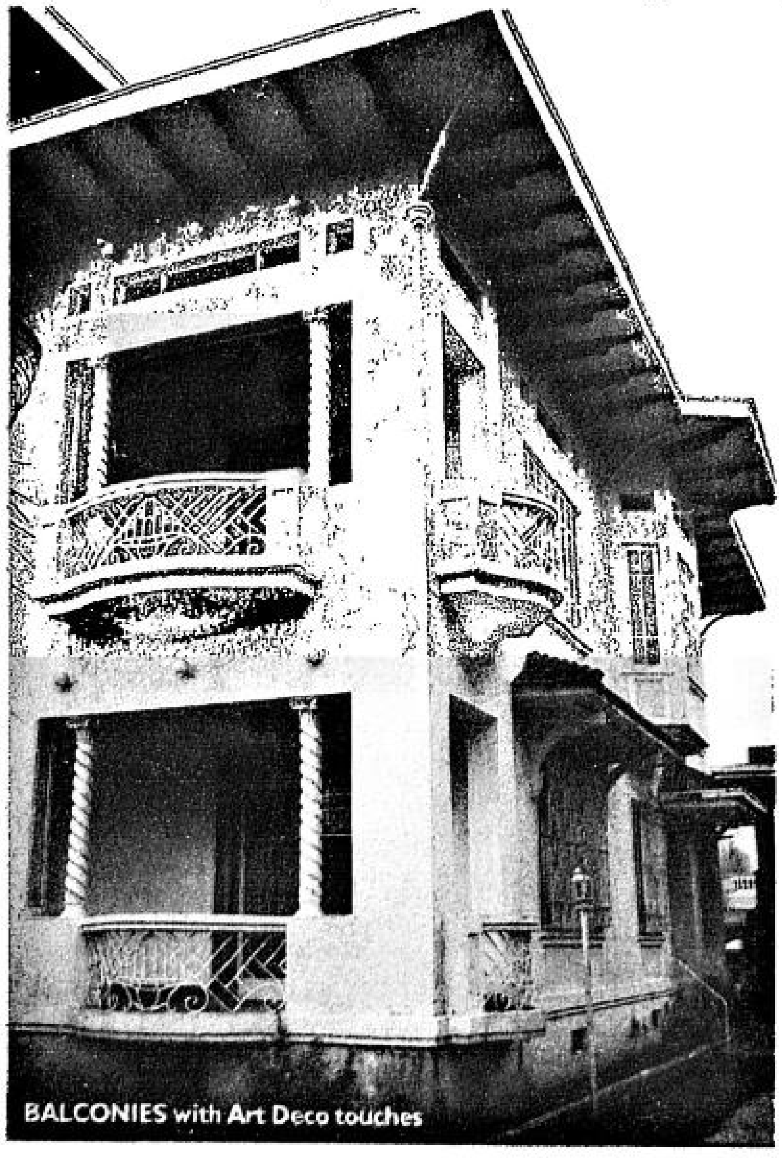
RURAL scene captured in bas relief



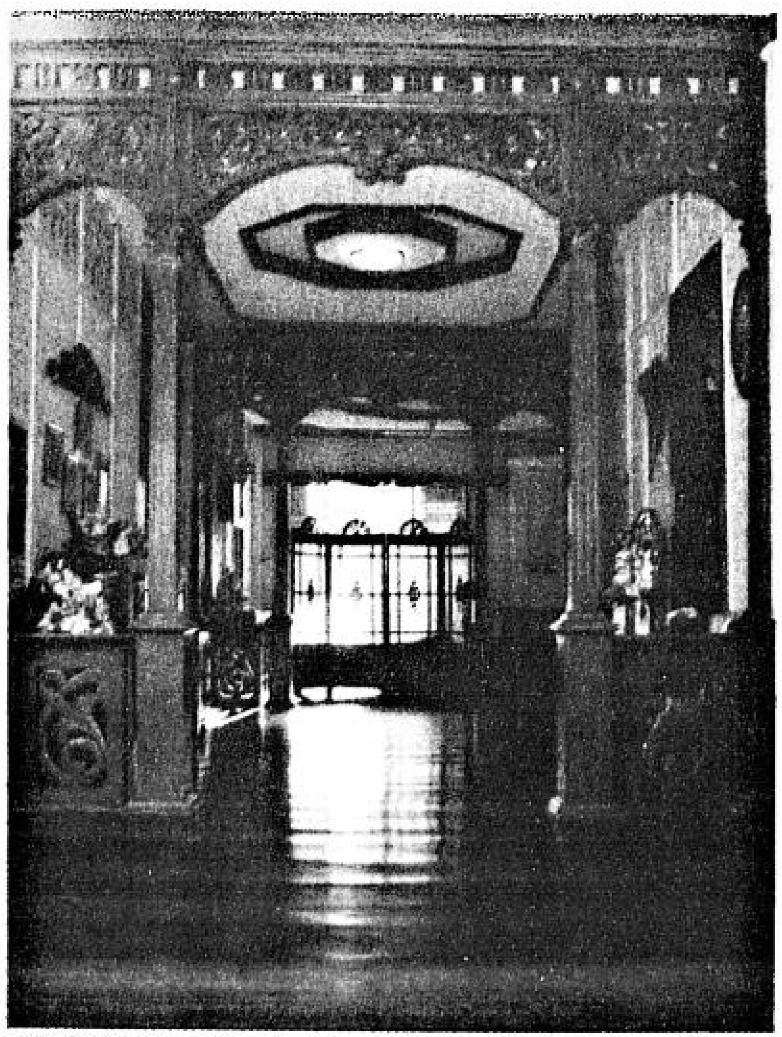
CARMEN Rodriguez and her *yaya* had identical chairs that doubled as pews.



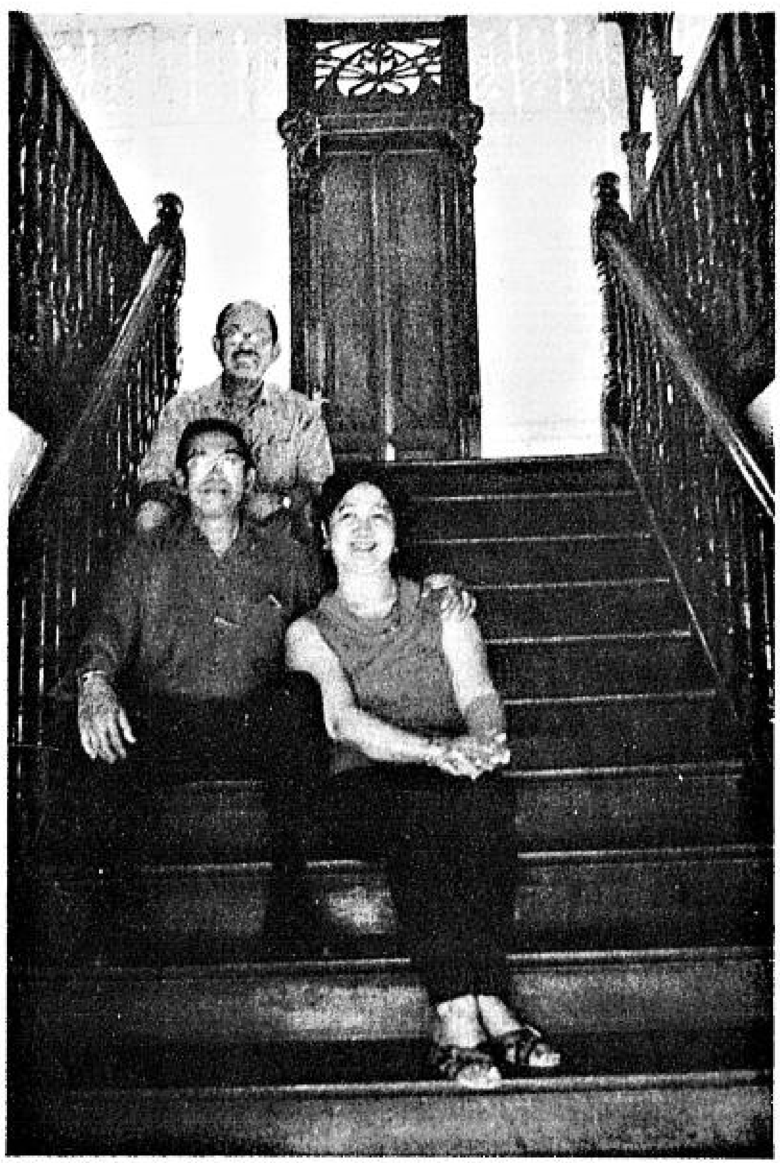
A PAINTING of family matriarch Carmen Rodriguez on her wedding day



BALCONIES with Art Deco touches

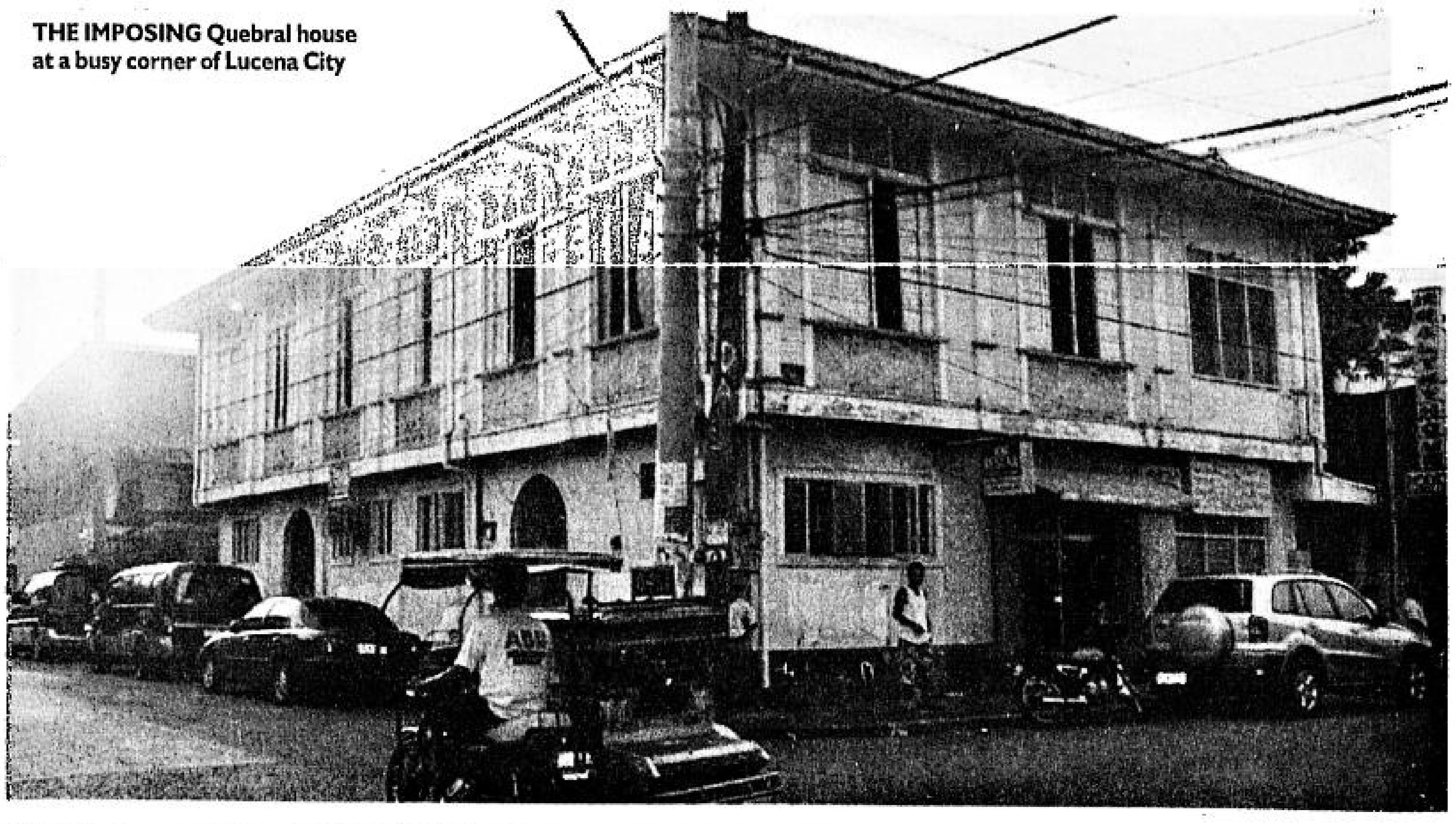


EXCEPT for the ceiling, the floor, arches and fretwork at the Quebral home have been kept intact.



VENANCIO Quebral's great grandchildren Totoy Zoleta, Caloy Zoleta and his wife Sandra

THIS divider had been around even before President Manuel Quezon, a good friend of Quebral, came to power.



THE IMPOSING Quebral house at a busy corner of Lucena City

Memorials to romance and history

From page E2

was single."

As the then mayor of Lucena, Venancio received a number of powerful men in his home, including President Manuel Quezon. He made it a point to stay with the Quebrals whenever he was in town.

Venancio and Quezon had been friends since the latter was a fiscal and later councilor from Baler. When he became the country's chief executive, Quezon was said to travel from Manila to then Tayabas with only one back-up vehicle and two bodyguards.

"Quezon slept there," says Zoleta, pointing to a bedroom with its original hardwood doors still intact. "He was said to have used this bathroom as well."

Except for the vintage sink and shower, everything about the bathroom is different now. Most of the furniture pieces are all but a memory. Aside from the main structure, faded photographs of deceased relatives in period attire transport visitors back in time.

Intact

The house's ceiling and certain portions of the wall have also undergone renovation, but its capiz windows, double doors, jambs, fretwork and floor made mostly of termite-resistant hardwood have remained surprisingly intact.

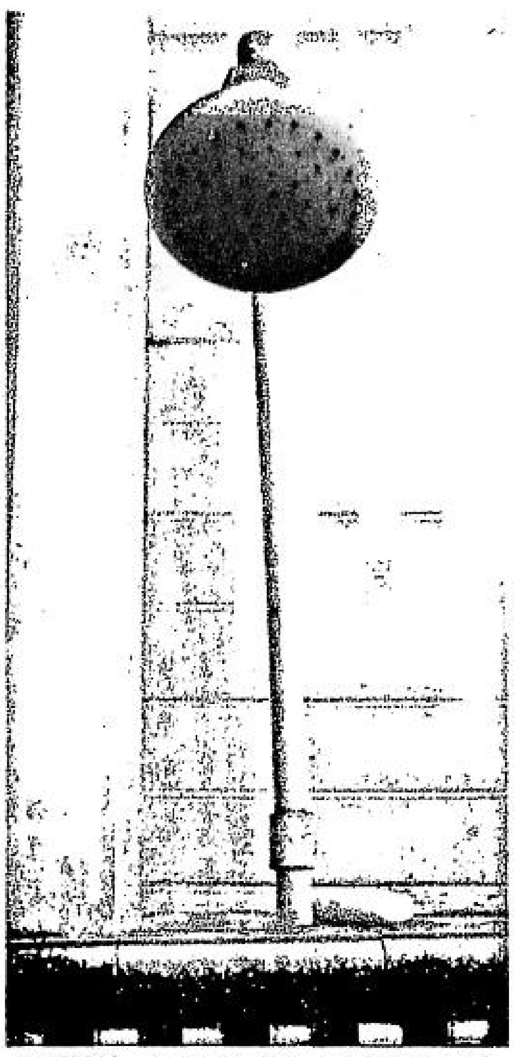
Of course, the Zoleta children were not born yet when Quezon regularly paid their "lelong" a visit. Caloy, however, was old enough to remember the time when Senators Recto and Manahan came calling. He even has faint memories of Ramon Magsaysay, then on his way to becoming president, staying over for the night.

At the height of the second world war, the family and their immediate relatives left Lucena and hid in Marinduque. Soon after returning, they discovered that the Americans had turned their house into, yes, a bar.

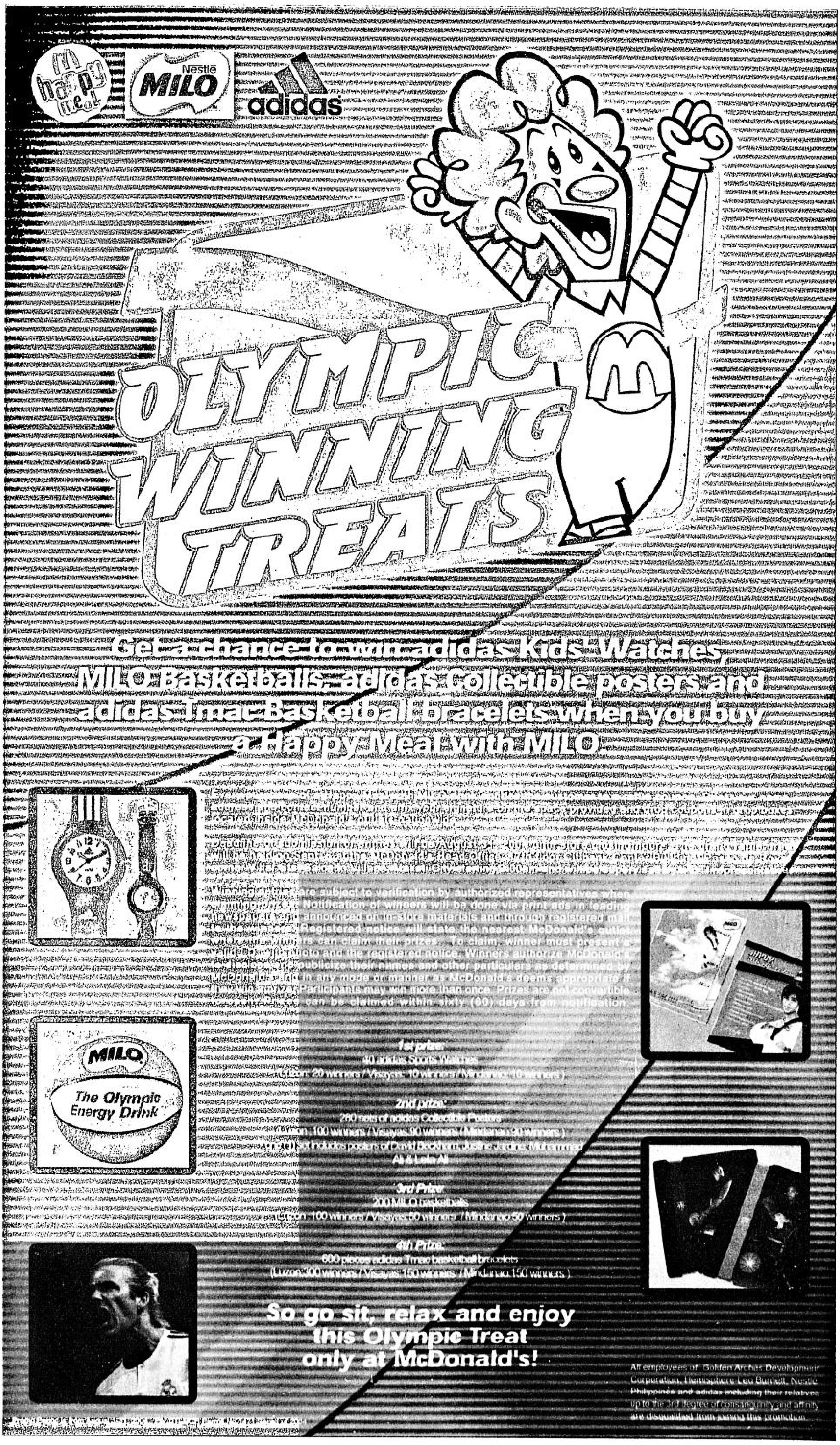
Both Cabuñag and Zoleta consider themselves fortunate for having supportive families. In Zoleta's case, he and his siblings have agreed among themselves to retain the property "as long as we can."

Cabuñag is more open to change: "It's up to my children to do what they want with the house when their time comes. But I think we were able to plant the seeds of appreciation in them [that] a house as old as this is worth keeping."

Lifestyle Goes to Quezon was sponsored by SM City Lucena.



QUEZON, a frequent visitor to the Quebral home, most probably used this shower.



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[illegible] are subject to verification by authorized representatives when [illegible] Notification of winners will be done via print ads in leading newspapers [illegible] announced on in-store materials and through registered mail. [illegible] Registered notice will state the nearest McDonald's outlet [illegible] winners can claim their prizes. To claim, winner must present a valid [illegible] photo and the registered notice. Winners authorize McDonald's [illegible] to publicize their names and other particulars as determined by McDonald's [illegible] in any mode or manner as McDonald's deems appropriate [illegible] Participants may win more than once. Prizes are not convertible [illegible] can be claimed within sixty (60) days from notification.

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2nd prize:
280 sets of adidas Collectible Posters
(Luzon : 100 winners / Visayas 90 winners / Mindanao 90 winners)
[illegible] Set includes posters of David Beckham, Justine Jardine, Muhammad Ali & Leila Ali

3rd Prize:
200 MILO basketballs
(Luzon :100 winners / Visayas 50 winners / Mindanao 50 winners)

4th Prize:
600 pieces adidas Tmac basketball bracelets
(Luzon:300 winners / Visayas 150 winners / Mindanao 150 winners)

So go sit, relax and enjoy this Olympic Treat only at McDonald's!

All employees of Golden Arches Development Corporation, Hemisphere Leo Burnett, Nestle Philippines and adidas including their relatives up to the 3rd degree of consanguinity and affinity are disqualified from joining this promotion.

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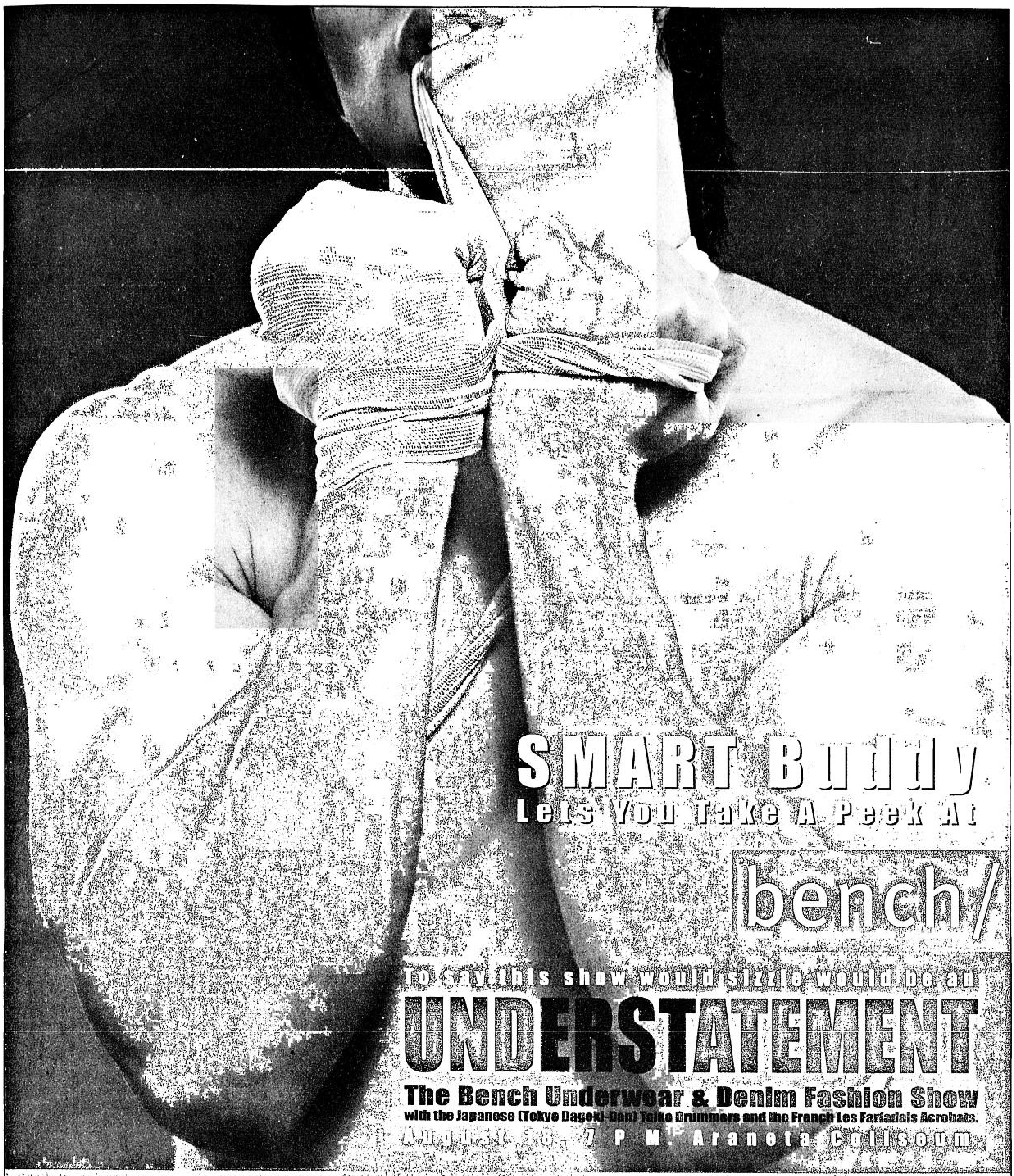
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SUNDAY,
AUGUST 8, 2004 PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER F1

Sunday LIFESTYLE
For feedback, e-mail us at lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph
Text Feedback: inquirer life name/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

BIG-hearted Baby Arenas with Rupert Jacinto photos behind her

My grudge war with Godzilla

Dimunitiveness may be a virtue, especially if you have my spunk and wit

TESSA!

Tessa Prieto-Valdes

WHICH is the better adage? "Great things come in small packages" or "size does matter"? In the case of my kids, I think of my height and I think of what their height may be and I think I agree with Godzilla.

So upon the recommendation of our orthopedic doctor, Dr. **Vince Gomez**, I took my kids to see pediatric endocrinologist **Susana Campos** to check if science can be of any aid to my kids' unfortunate lack of the height gene.

After filling up the medical information sheets, I had the secretary also measure my height. My photographed height varies depending on my shoes and hairstyle (which when combined can add up to 10 inches, making me downright statuesque). With my bare feet flat on the ground and my stomach pressed against the wall, the doctor's assistant pressed the height bar and flattened my hair.

What horrors there are in facing the truth! I'm tempted to reveal my true height, perhaps expressed in centimeters since there would then be more digits. But what is beauty without a bit of mystery attached to it? And so, my secret remains with me, and an unnamed assistant whom I have bribed never to reveal the truth!

Actually, I usually don't notice my diminutive size whilst moving around at social functions, at least until I get to see the photographs, typically beside ladies who tower over me.

Rupert's lens

Photographers, like **Rupert Jacinto**, have to be so creative to make their subjects look tall. At the launch last week of his "A Celebration of the Filipino, Portraits of an Era," there were so many people that I felt smaller than usual, having to elbow my way around the Peninsula Gallery just to glimpse the portraits of luminaries from decades past to today. Check out my own photo of philanthropist **Rosemarie "Baby" Arenas** with you-know-who in the background.

MY GRUDGE/ F3

TOP photographer Rupert Jacinto with his lovely wife, Tina

TALL and beautiful Lucy Torres-Gomez with petite Sea Princess

NEW Yorker's creative guy Dennis Resurreccion with owner Liz Romack Lirag

PRETTY Fit owners Jennie Chua and Linda Tan

LONG-TIME friends Pitoy Moreno, Imelda Cojuangco and Criselda Lontok

Introducing
The Tiffany Mark™ T-57
Swiss Pedigree automatic movement
Vulcanized command points
Calibrated bezel rotator driver
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Another first from Globe!

Globe Txt Bak Mo, Libre Ko

lets you make that connection

Globe Handyphone users are raving about Globe's latest service Txt Bak Mo, Libre Ko. From concerned moms to busy employers, the service ensures that the important people in our lives can text back when we need to hear from them, even when they have no load. Txt Bak Mo, Libre Ko allows any Globe Prepaid or Plan subscriber to send a message to another Globe subscriber and let that person reply for free!

With a low flat rate of only P2 charged per use of the service, Txt Bak Mo, Libre Ko, can be used anytime, anywhere, as long as the subscriber has sufficient load.

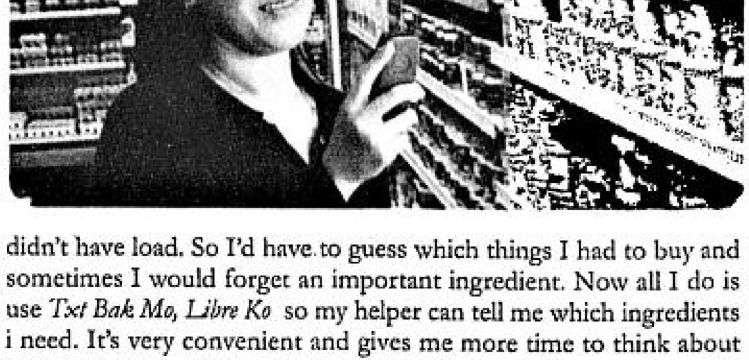
Lost and Found

"We went to the toy store because mama and papa said they would buy me a yo-yo if I got a high grade. There were so many toys! But I got lost and I didn't know what to do. Then I got a text from papa, he was asking me where I was. It also said that I could reply to papa's text for free! I said that I was looking at the toy cars. After I texted, mama and papa came to get me. Papa told me he used *Txt Bak Mo, Libre Ko*. Then we bought my yoyo and ate ice cream. I was so happy!"

-- Kenneth, age 8

Recipe for a happy household

"At home, I'm the undisputed queen of the kitchen. I make sure that my pantry is well stocked with all the necessary ingredients. But one time, while I was shopping in the supermarket, I realized that I left my grocery list at home. When that happened before, I would text the people at home, but I wouldn't receive a response because they didn't have load. So I'd have to guess which things I had to buy and sometimes I would forget an important ingredient. Now all I do is use *Txt Bak Mo, Libre Ko* so my helper can tell me which ingredients i need. It's very convenient and gives me more time to think about other things. Like, which recipe I should try out next."



-- Cathy, multi-tasking homemaker

Getting Extra Credit

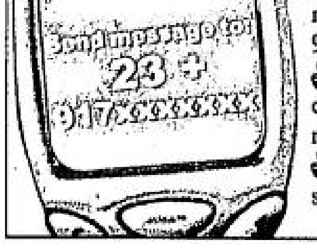
"A lot of activities keep me on campus long after classes end. I attend and organize activities for my org, do research work (really!), or just hang out with friends. With all the people I keep in touch with, I sometimes lose track of my phone credits and run out of load at the most inconvenient times. Like when my groupmate texted, asking if I could meet her at the library to work on a research paper. At the time I was at an outreach activity but couldn't text back because I had no load. We got our research started eventually, but just to make sure, she uses *Txt Bak Mo, Libre Ko* when she texts me our meeting schedule. We've managed to make good progress on our paper, and it looks like we're gonna ace the class!"

-- Kristine, college student

Communicating in the Workplace

"Good communication is essential to the success of a company. When I write reports and make presentations for status meetings, I make sure that all the information I have is updated and accurate by texting my team members and verifying their input. The feedback is almost instant; that is, if they have enough load to text back. So when I heard that Globe launched this new service called *Txt Bak Mo, Libre Ko*, I decided that it would be more efficient if I used this to text my team members. That way, I am always assured that they will be able to reply to my urgent messages. Now my reports aren't only up-to-date, they're also done in record time!"

-- Joseph, project head



Text-friendly tips for Txt Bak Mo, Libre Ko

- The service can be used on numbers beginning with 917, 916, 927, and 926.
- A maximum of 160 characters can be used for each *Txt Bak* message.
- After using the service, subscribers will receive a confirmation message. A text will also be sent to the receiving party, telling them that they can reply for free.
- All *Txt Bak* messages must be replied to within 48 hours or two days.
- For added convenience, save two versions of each Globe mobile number in your phone book, the original number and the *Txt Bak* number with "23" attached to it.
- The *Txt Bak* cycle ends when a subscriber replies to a message for free. If the initiating subscriber replies to the new message, another *Txt Bak* cycle begins.

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SHIRLEY Plaza, Julie Unico, Marissa Andaya, Gina de Venecia, Sandra Estrella, Jade Ecleo and Trina Biazon; (seated) Edna Marcoleta, Milen Albano and Louie Locsin

BADETTE Barbers, Marissa Andaya, Julie Unico and Jade Ecleo; Bibia Macarambon

New Congress spouses welcomed

GINA de Venecia, president of the Congressional Spouses Foundation Inc. (CSFI), recently hosted a party at her home in Dasmariñas Village, Makati City, to welcome some 81 new congressional spouses of the 13th Congress.

The new faces mingled with CSFI regulars—members from past Congresses and administrations—proving that the fellowship forged among the spouses transcended political affiliations and party loyalties.

De Venecia, wearing a suit in CSFI's traditional color of blue and white, assured new members that they were among friends.

She briefed the new members on the CSFI projects, including the 15-building Haven for Women complex in Muntinlupa City; the house seeks to rehabilitate abused women.

She also briefed them on the recently inaugurated nine-building Haven for Children, also in Muntinlupa City, and its three mini-centers for streetchildren in Dagupan City, Tarlac City and Solana, Cagayan. These centers serve as temporary shelters for displaced children.

De Venecia said the CSFI hopes to open more centers for abused children like the Haven for Women, which has 14 regional centers.

Trina Biazon and Louie Locsin hosted a program to foster the fellowship between old and new members. They also gave away raffle prizes to make the new members feel more at home.

MARIDEE Chanyungco, Angela Arroyo and sister Emily Yupangco

Pre-Christmas charity bazaar

SOME 300 vendors and exhibitors are expected to participate in a three-day bazaar to be held 10 a.m.-10 p.m., Sept. 10-12, at the World Trade Center on Roxas Boulevard.

Merchandise will be clustered into different categories to make it easy for shoppers to find what they want. Among the items that the bazaar will carry are furniture, antiques, appliances, home decor, jewelry clusters and the latest fashion for men and women.

Shoppers can enjoy a wide array of food items while a flea market will offer bargain goods. Pets and plants will also be available.

A playground will be set up for kids, and rides and clowns will keep them entertained.

Entrance tickets will entitle shoppers to a raffle stub that can win them prizes worth thousands of pesos.

Proceeds of the two-year-old event will go to Bantay Bata 163 of the ABS-CBN Foundation. Call 5323475, 7221464, 5320097 or 7221460.

ANSWER TO SUNDAY CROSSWORD

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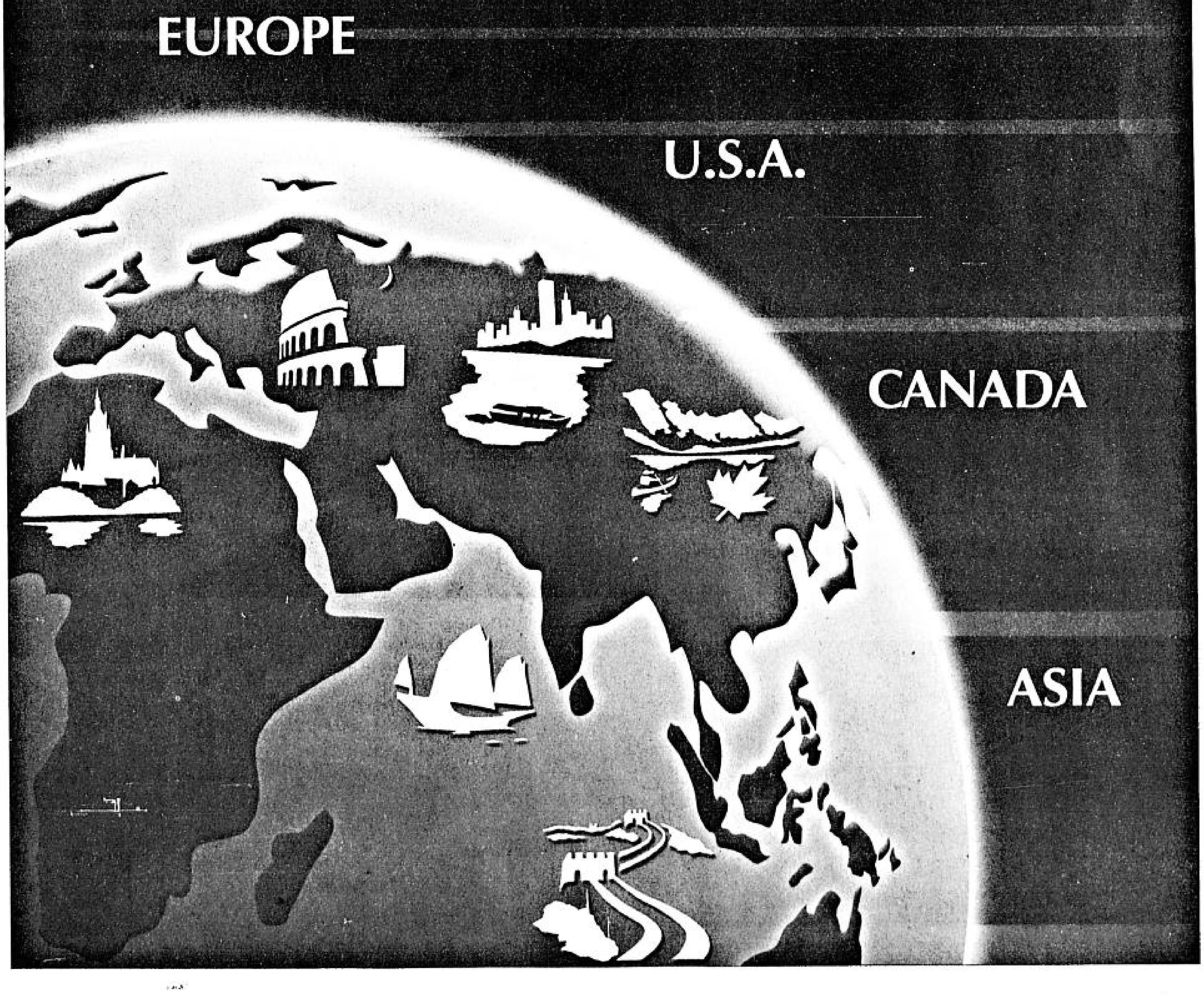


My grudge war with Godzilla

CRISELLE Panlilio, Rajo Laurel, Tina Yu, Sabrina Panlilio and Menchu Bautista

INQUIRER Super! brains Tim Yap with Big Fish's Tuck

STYLE ICONS. L'Oreal girl Leica Carpo, Just Shop's Jenni Epperson and Shu Uemura's Xeng Zulueta

COOL, smart friends. Beia Formoso, Sep Mahino and Bea Villamor

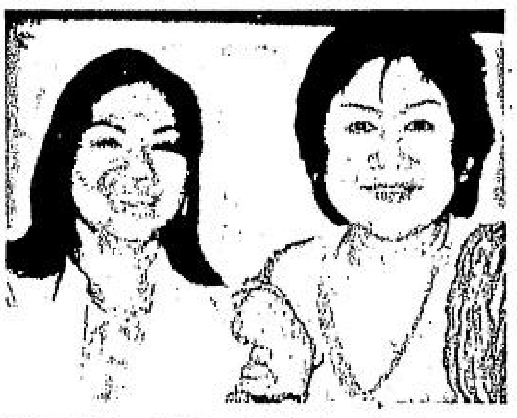
HELLO Kitty friends Anton Barretto, Ina Guingona and China Cojuangco

From page F1

I remember last year at the Philippine Tatler Ball, stunning **Lucy Torres** and I were posing in our **Joe Salazar** gowns. I had on seven-inch stilettos and a 10-inch-high Marge Simpson beehive hairdo. And Lucy was still taller than I was! She is so statuesque and beautiful. I bet the doctor takes her height measurement personally.

At the opening of a fashionable (and may I add reasonable) shoe shop called Pretty Fit at Glorietta, Lucy and I had some time to chat about getting our little girls together while we were taking our belly-dancing classes with sexy **Ginajane Grey**. Again, being right next to her made me wish I had drank more milk and had lots more sleep when I was growing up. I'm just glad my 6-year-old daughter **Annika** is still taller than her 3-year-old, pretty, soon-to-be-statuesque **Julianna**.

Feeling Imeldific



SOUTH Beach Diet-thin Thelma San Juan and Gift Gate queen Virgie Ramos

FAB director Rowell Santiago with identical twins Alex and Gabbie Anonas

LOVELY ladies Virginia Laurel and Susan Reyes

Still at Pretty Fit, I ended up buying almost a dozen shoes partly because they were so wonderfully priced and there was a promo that evening. I always rationalize that any excuse to shop is a good excuse. Fresh from watching the documentary "Imelda," my shoe fetish overcame me. But I have to say, and I am sure virtually all Filipinas will agree with me—3,000 shoes? Very doable. Yes it's excessive but not nearly in the same league as other scandals of our time like the billions of dollars between the Bushes and the Saudis in "Fahrenheit 9/11"! But, hey, don't worry I won't get into politics! Let's not forget this is the Lifestyle section!

Back to the shopping scene! Let me tell you about the House of Laurel, the wonderful new gallery boutique of my fairy god-designer **Rajo Laurel**. Not content to rest on his "laurels" as one of the most successful wedding/couture designers, he has ventured into retail in his own building (6013 J D Villena St., just behind Rockwell) that also houses his working Eves. The RTW line includes a hip transition line for expectant mothers called Nine and a designer children's line called Rajito (Rajo's childhood nickname). At his Romance-theme opening, I got a million-and-one-ways-to-use silk jersey top. It was amazing to see the variations. If there ever was an example of shopping wisely, this was it.

Annika and I came in Nine and Rajito, mother-daughter, matching floral dresses. It was so cute to see all the kids wearing Rajito. Rajo has just raised the fashion bar at the kids' level. Children nowadays are so confident and smart. They have their fashion senses all set and know how to carry their look. That's why I love being photographed with them. Aside from their cool, hip personalities, I look taller.

Hello J-Pop

At the Hello Kitty "Nakayoku Party," I looked like a ramp model next to Annika and her peers! I was all geared in my hot pink JPop ensemble (that's actually Japanese Pop style for those not in the Gentext era) especially made for me by New Yorker, a new discovery for the most exciting vintage outfits.

"Nakayoku" literally means, "making friends" in Japanese and not "bowing down" in Filipino. With that overall happy feeling that Gift Gate Queen **Virgie Ramos** always spreads, the invitational party was also for the 30th birthday of the world's most popular feline, Hello Kitty, and featured a T-shirt exhibit. Talk about multi-branding! The prize for the "Designer Tees" exhibit was a limited edition Hello Kitty Adidas jacket specially designed with a Kitty's face in Swarovski crystals.

My action-packed shopping week ended with the INQUIRER Super!'s Pimps 'N Ho's Ball at the Expo Exchange, Greenbelt. It was the most racy yet sizzling party of the seven-day first anniversary celebration of **Inquirer** Super! I saw the birth of this section with my time-zone brother **Tim Yap** and his creative team burning the midnight oil in between full-throttle partying. Though also an insomniac, I still need days to recover from an all-nighter, unlike Tim and his fellow night owls. I guess it's the age difference!

With the Super! sexy, lingerie fashion show of fashion-forward, designing sisters, **Mimi** and **Juliet Tan**, all the tightest buns were ramping down the stage with the young, hip crowd cheering them on. Congratulations to Tim and his crew for all their efforts in making INQUIRER Super! the cutting-edge section of the newspaper industry.

Super! is just a small part of the INQUIRER but it is one great section. Just goes to show that, when done with passion, great things do come in small packages.

E-mail me at seaprincess@inquirer.com.ph

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- *The prizes include free outings for groups of five to Boracay (roundtrip airfare ticket plus 3 days & 2 nights hotel accommodation) at Seawind Resort or to Subic (day tour in an air-conditioned vehicle around the beach/duty-free shops area plus free lunch & entrance at the Ocean Adventure.) Available booking in said destinations will be subject to confirmation during peak season. Metro Manila will be the points of departure and return for all tour prize winners.*

Promo Period: August 1- December 31, 2004.

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Per DTI – NCR Permit No.3576, Series of 2004.

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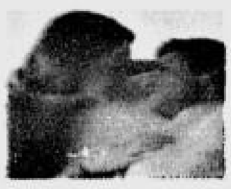

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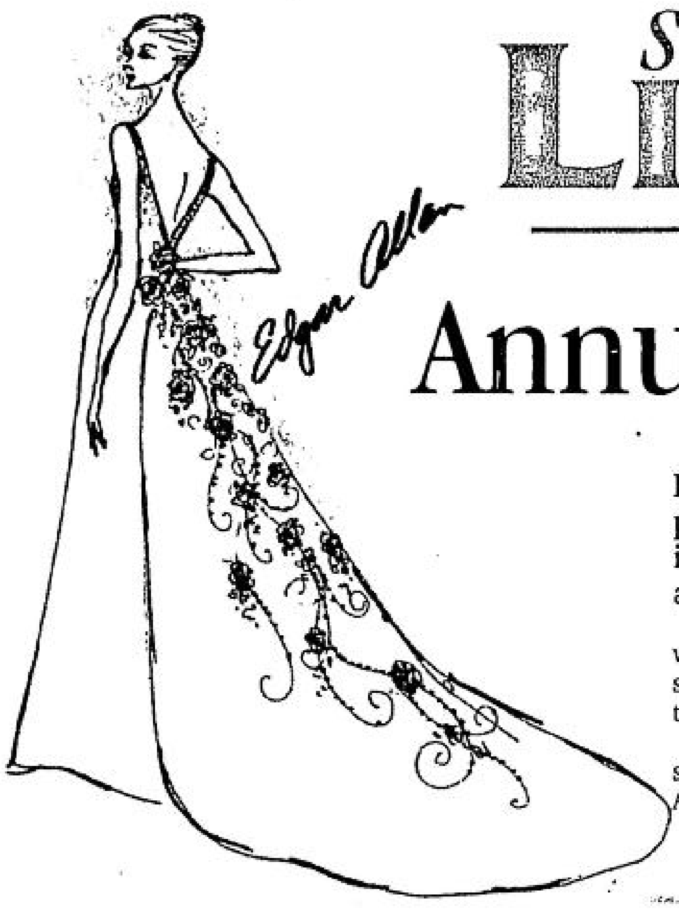
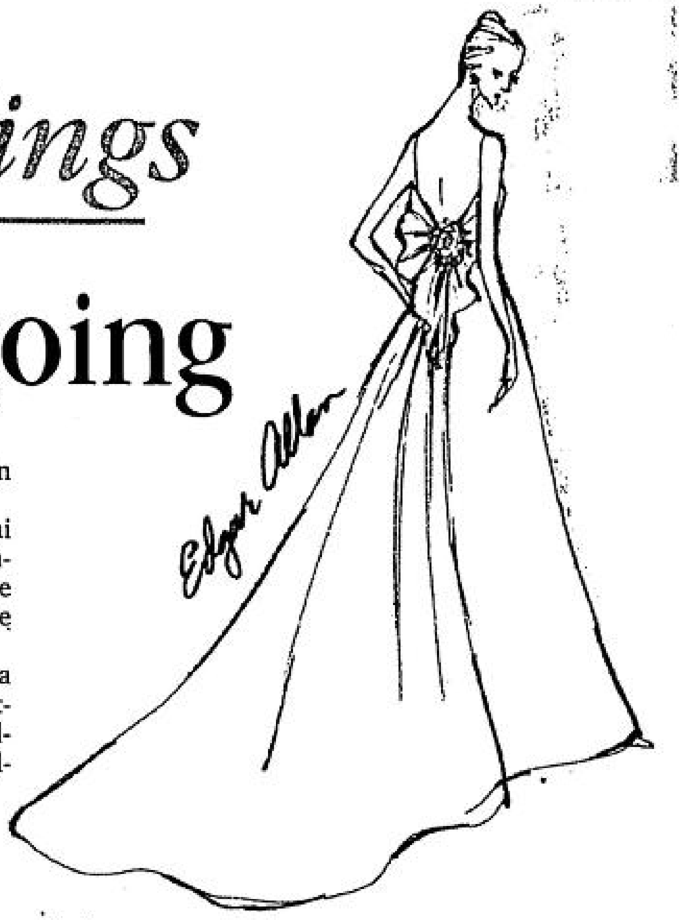
Sunday LifeStyle Weddings


Edgar Allan

Annual bridal show ongoing


Edgar Allan

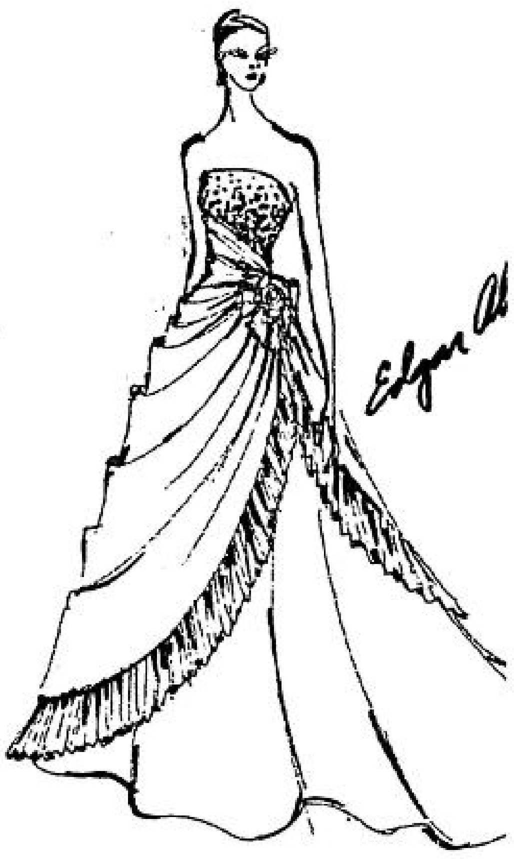
FASHION designer Edgar Allan is presenting his annual bridal exhibit until Aug. 11 at the Glorietta, Ayala Center Makati.

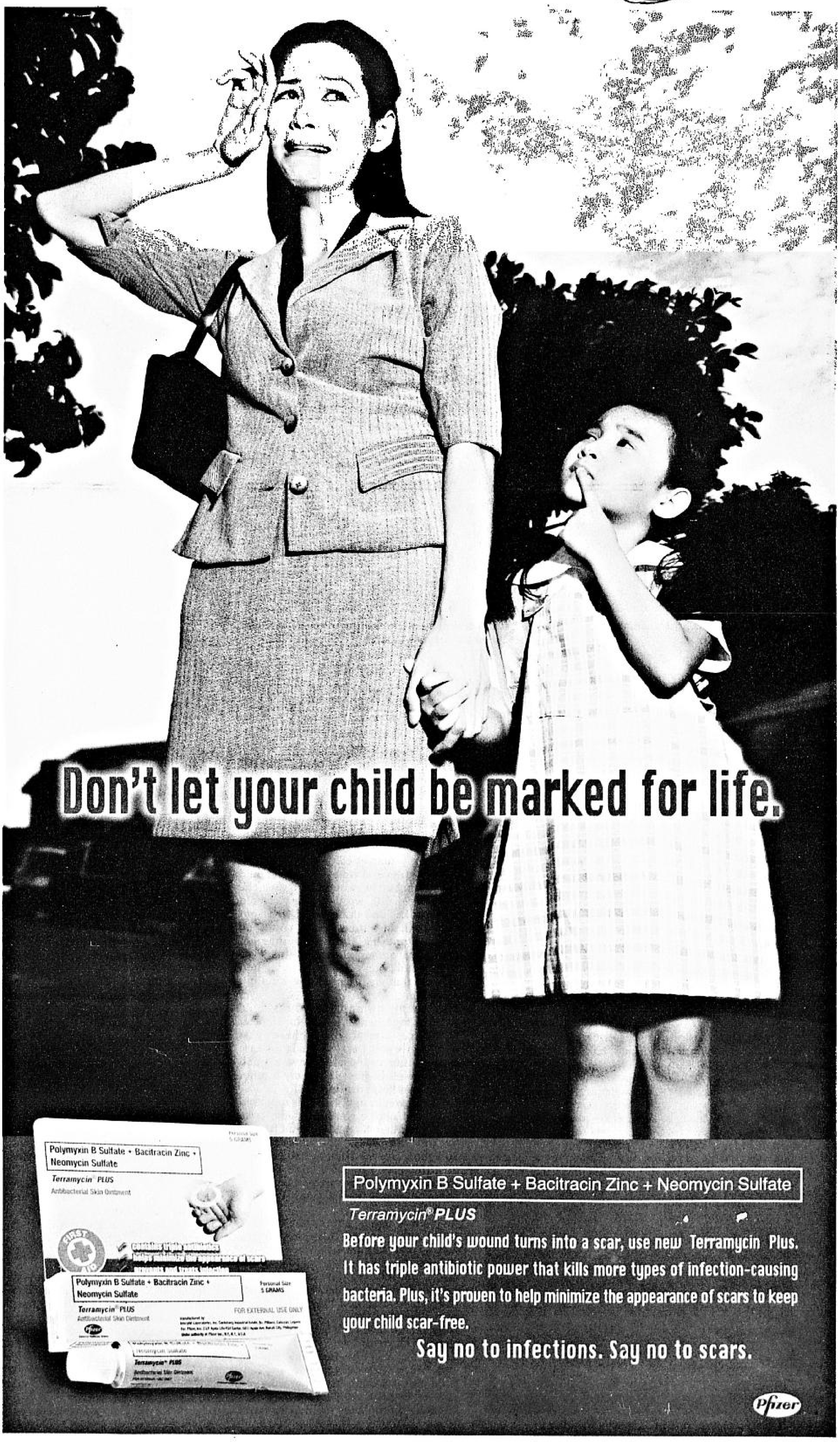
This year's color motifs are pink and lilac, which are popular with debutantes as represented by the gowns of two recent celebrators, Julie-Ann Miralles and Lee Anne Aldabe.

Bridal gowns on exhibit have silk flowers such as those worn by Ayala Land's Pinky Abad Calupe and Cay de la Cruz Celis, whose long train was strewn with delicate flowers in spring colors.

Mary Catalan Tan of Wencesco-Nanasai Mannequins wore a romantic Victorian-inspired gown, while Allan's own niece, Grace Casareo Ewican, wore an outfit with delicate lace in the Lily of the Valley motif.

The exhibit, held in cooperation with Ayala Land, is open during mall hours at the Glorietta, Ayala Center Makati, where the Edgar Allan boutique for special occasion clothes is also located.





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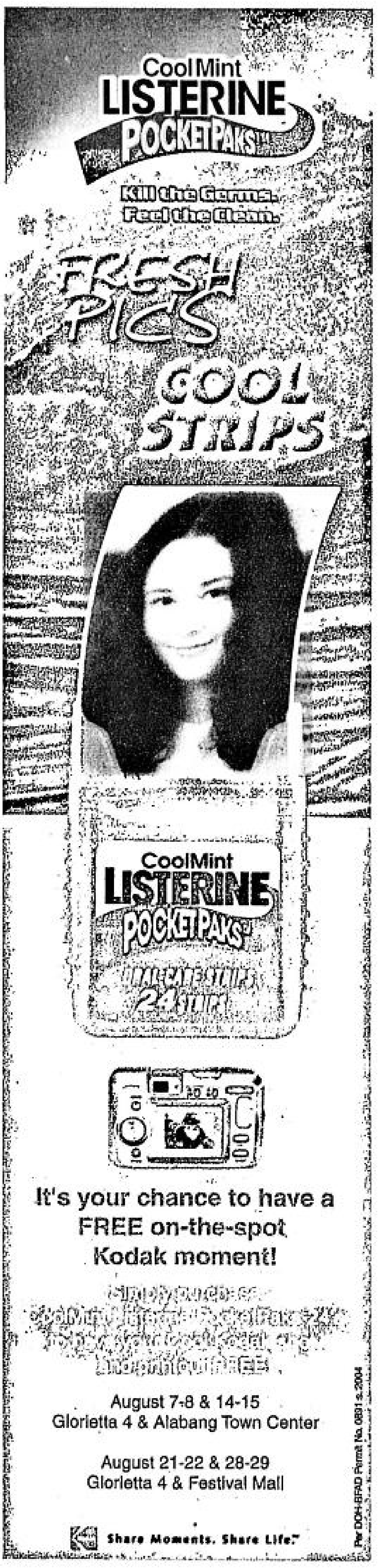

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GRACE with flower girls and bridesmaids Nina Vergara, Michaela Boren and maid of honor Frances Casareo (left); with sponsors Puring Buenaflor, Lucy Trono, John Boren, Cora Villareal, officiating priest Fr. Marcel Prudente and Gloria Villareal Boren (above)

Bride goeth to her groom

INSTEAD of the groom going to where his bride was, Grace Casareo and family flew to Cebu for her wedding to Roderick Ewican that capped a five-year courtship spanning oceans.

Grace's parents, the former Lulu M. Aguirre (of the Miraflores political family in Aklan) and Ernie Casareo, agreed to have the wedding in Cebu when they found out that Roderick's mother was a paralytic who could not fly for medical reasons.

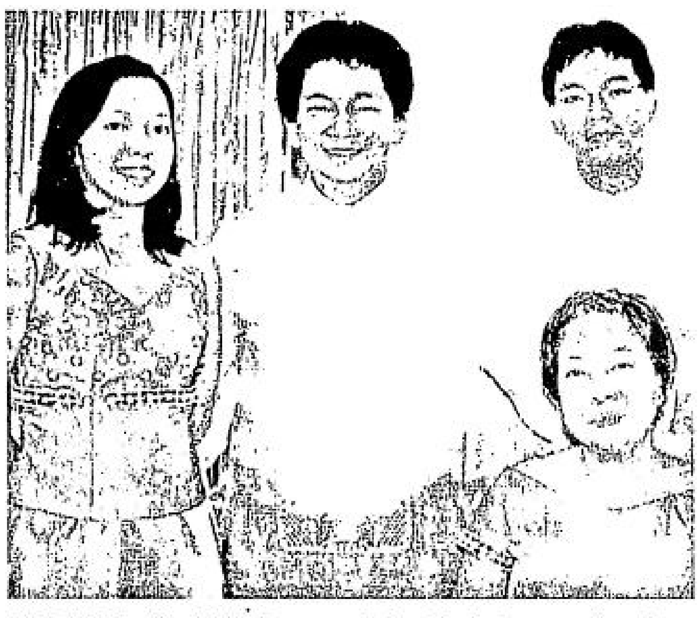
Roderick, a marine engineer in the Middle East, arranged for his bride's family to stay at Cebu's Waterfront Hotel.

Grace, a doctor, actually came all the way from New York with favorite aunt, Lucy Trono. She marched down the aisle of Cebu's Redemptorist Church in a gown especially designed for her by her uncle, Edgar Allan (Lucy's younger brother).

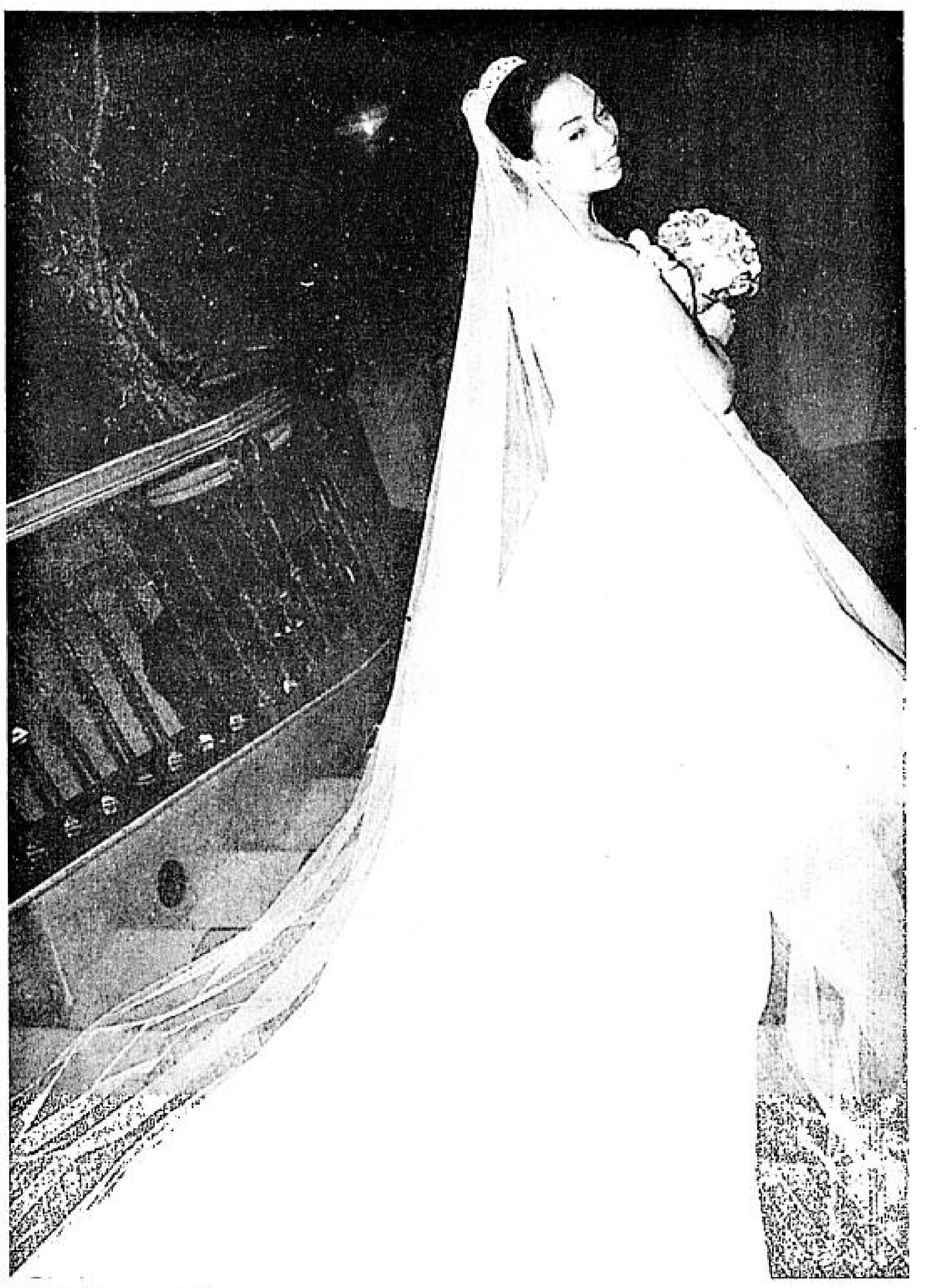
Allan made a demure gown in duchess satin trimmed with dainty French Alencon lace accented with Swarovski crystals. She marched with an open veil.

The church's aisle was decorated with lilac orchids and mums by Cebu florist Miguel Suerte.

THE NEWLYWEDS with Roderick's parents, Socorro and Ramon Ewican



BRIDE'S family. Sister Frances, father Ernie Casareo, brother Eric and mother Lulu Aguirre Casareo



GRACE Casareo-Ewican

Pioneer bridal fair is back

MAKATI Shangri-La, with Meet Inc., is holding Bridal Fête 2004 today, 10 a.m.-9 p.m., at the Rizal Ballroom.

Known as the pioneering bridal fair, Bridal Fête promises to be the grandest showcase of wedding trimmings with its theme "Wedding Options for Today's Creative Couples." An extensive range of services and the hotel's own events management team will be on hand to assist any bride-to-be with her dream wedding.

Shopping options such as wedding planning services, bridal gowns, invitations, flowers, cakes, wedding favors, musical entertainment, photography, honeymoon destinations, limousine services, spa and wellness programs for the radiant bride-to-be and her dashing groom will be available at this one-day-only event.

In the day's program are a fashion show featuring the gown creations of Delby P. Bragais, who has been nominated as "Best Bridal Wear Designer" in the Mega Style Awards.

The Las Piñas Boys Choir, a group of 29 boys aged 9-16 from St. Joseph's Academy, will contribute their sweet, soulful voices to the show.

The Bridal Fête's roots trace back to 1994, a year after Makati Shangri-La opened its doors to the public. The hotel was the first in the city to conceptualize a one-stop shop where engaged couples could scout for wedding services under one roof.

The concept originated from the large turnout of people inquiring about Makati Shangri-La's wedding packages.

Bridal Fête gives the events management team an opportunity to assist couples not only in booking wedding venues but also planning their menus from a variety of set menus prepared by the hotel's award-winning culinary team.

Now on its 10th year, Bridal Fête has the reputation of having one of the finest collections of wedding wares and services, the most efficient and accommodating events management team, and the most innovative wedding setups.

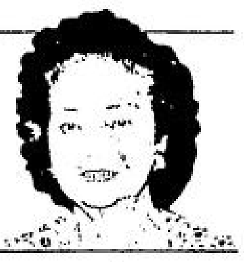
This year will be no different, with wellness programs, skin-care specialists, makeup artists and hairdressers added to the impressive roster of services, to give tips and provide information on how to make brides-to-be look extra radiant on their special day.

WEDDING setup at Makati Shangri-La Hotel's bridal fair

Her boyfriend has disappeared

LIVE AND LET LIVE

Tita Dulce



DEAR Tita Dulce,

I am a single mother with one child. Ben, on the other hand, is legally separated and has three children. We became sweethearts shortly after we began a business partnership. It was fine during the first year, but as the venture (started to) fail on the second year, we frequently quarrelled.

I asked several times that we should break up but he wouldn't agree. The last time I did, we went out "for old times' sake" and that was when he got me pregnant. But since I could no longer stand his attitude—he has not asked for an annulment of his marriage—and I don't believe in living in, I insisted that we broke up. He wouldn't let me go.

I have my own apartment so we do not live together, although he slept at my place almost daily these past months. He paid the rent and I took care of the other expenses. I have a small buy-and-sell business, and my mother sometimes helps me financially.

(Three weeks ago, Ben) disappeared and could not be contacted. After two weeks, I called his relatives and friends but no one knew his whereabouts. Somehow I learned that he had two other girlfriends while we were still involved (although we were having frequent quarrels then), and I called them.

One is a single mother like me. She gave Ben huge sums which she believed he was investing for her. The other is a girl who Ben said he was no longer seeing. It turned out they were still involved. I was convinced they were not lying when they said they didn't know where he was. My only comfort, perhaps, is that they both have the impression it is I he truly loves.

Still, I'm at a loss. Ben knew my sad experience with the father of my first child, so I can't understand how he can put me through the same pain now. I know he did his best financially, and I can feel that he loves me. I was the only girlfriend he introduced to his family, and his relatives said he changed for the better since we developed a relationship.

He was very attentive and helpful during the first months of my pregnancy. He was not happy, though, with my reply to his oft-repeated question about my plans after the baby was born: "I have no solid plans about us because you still cannot marry me." Recently, too, we quarreled about money, and he began acting negatively towards my child.

The night before he disappeared, Ben sent me a text message saying I should always remember that he loved me very much and he would do anything to support me even if that got him into trouble. I replied that he should not do anything foolish.

Somehow I feel his problem is financial. He has no regular job and no money for my upcoming cesarean delivery. Could that be why he left, or is there another reason?

ALICE

My best guess is he left to look for money for your delivery. Given his background, however, he has little chance of achieving that, so he left without a word rather than explain to you and have you laughing inwardly at his "mission impossible." He gave no hint when he'd be back because he doesn't know when, if ever, he'd get the money. All he could do, as his text message showed, was promise to do his best. To him, the end (coming back with the money) would justify the means (going Awol, so to speak).

It is not likely he left you for another girl. I believe, as you said, that his girlfriends don't know where he is. And since he has no money, it is unlikely he is courting a new girl.

He needs money for courtship, especially if he is trying to hook someone with resources he could borrow or "invest." My next best guess is that, whether or not he gets the money, he'll be back.

His poor employment record, his tendency to dupe women for money and intimacy, and his legal separation—these suggest that he is a bad guy. He, of course, does not or would not want to believe that.

His legal separation might suggest that his wife thinks he is rotten to the core. His two girlfriends, on the other hand, think he is a good catch and want to hang on to him. You are different because you believe he is not totally bad. You've kept him because he could be loving and caring, but you are not blind to his flaws and would kick him out when his bad side becomes unbearable.

He probably sees in you the promise of regaining his self-respect. And, as long as he sees that, my guess is he'll keep coming back.

Does that mean he truly loves you? Or are you just a tool for improving his self-image? I don't think they are the real issues now. What is more important is that you implied that you'll spend your life with him when his marriage is annulled.

Even if he has good legal grounds for an annulment, it could take five years and hundreds of thousands of pesos to get the court to decide on the matter. I don't think he'll have the money for that soon. And I don't think you should wait five years and miss the opportunity to meet a better man.

E-mail titadulce2003@yahoo.com or send letters to P.O. Box 2353, Makati CPO, or the PDI office.

PORTUGAL-PANTANILLA

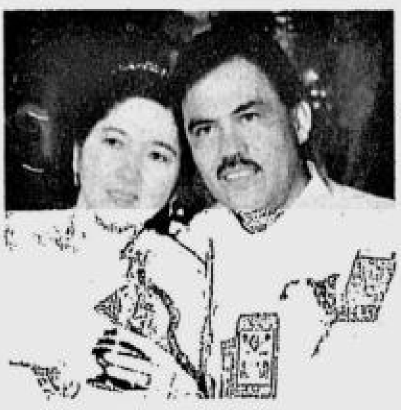
Mon Portugal III, son of Evelyn and **Ramon Portugal Jr.** (deceased), married **Bev Pantanilla**, daughter of **Agapita** and **Bert Pantanilla**, last July 9 at the Church of the Risen Lord, UP Diliman. Reception followed at Fernwood Gardens, Sanville, Quezon City. The wedding ensemble was by couturier **Ding Marquez**.

The groom is an ENT/head-and-neck surgery resident, while the bride is an anesthesiologist. Both are UERM graduates.

FLORES-BAGAOISAN

Engineer **Dexter Flores**, son of Mr. and Mrs. **Felizardo Flores**, tied the knot with Dr. **Joy Bagaoisan**, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. **Concordio Bagaoisan**, on May 28, at the Redemptorist Church, Davao City.

Reception followed at the Grand Ballroom of the Apo View Hotel, Davao City.



FAJEMOLIN-TELEN

Edwin Fajemolin, son of Mr. and Ms **Salvador Fajemolin**, and **Bing Telen**, daughter of Mr. and Ms **Pedro Telen**, exchanged vows recently at the Sacred Heart Church.

Fr. **Lucas Inoc** officiated at the wedding. Reception followed at the Grand Convention Center.

MORALES-GUEVARRA

Ian Henrique C. Morales, son of **Nick** and **Malou Resureccion**, married recently **Sheryll G. Guevarra**, daughter of **Lucio** and **Emilia Guevarra**, at the Manila Cathedral.

Reception followed at the Teatrillo, Casa Manila Plaza, Intramuros, Manila. Fr. **Robert P. Reyes** was the Mass celebrant.

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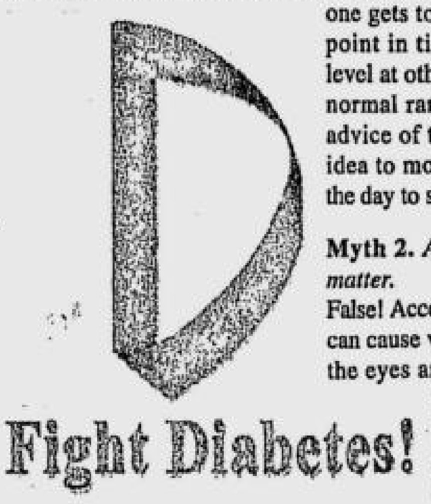
Diabetes Myths Debunked

Part 1

Myth 1. *Once my blood sugar becomes normal, I am cured.*
False! Although diabetes is a disorder where blood sugar levels are typically abnormally high, a blood glucose level that is normal does not imply a cure for two reasons: (There is no cure for diabetes)

(1) Although elevated blood sugar levels are recognized as the traditional hallmark of diabetes, the disorder behind the disease is more than that. Diabetes is now seen as a disease of the heart and the blood vessels. This is why the management of diabetes not only focuses on blood sugar control but also on control of blood pressure, lipid and protection of eyes and kidney.

(2) People with diabetes have huge blood sugar fluctuations during the day — everyday. So even if one gets to have a blood sugar level that is within normal at one point in time, there is still no assurance that the blood sugar level at other times i.e. after a meal, exercise, etc. are kept within normal range. Hence, it is very important that they follow the advice of their doctors and diabetes educators. It is also a good idea to monitor blood glucose levels daily at different times of the day to see whether blood glucose levels are within normal range.


Fight Diabetes!

Myth 2. *As long as one feels well, high blood sugar levels do not matter.*
False! According to recent medical evidence, high blood sugar levels can cause very serious damage to the blood vessels, to the heart, to the eyes and to the kidneys — just to name a few. This damage happens so slowly that it is not surprising that individuals can still feel well while the damaging processes are happening. The usual trend is once the patients start complaining about not feeling well, it may already be too late because of the advanced injury that cannot be ignored.

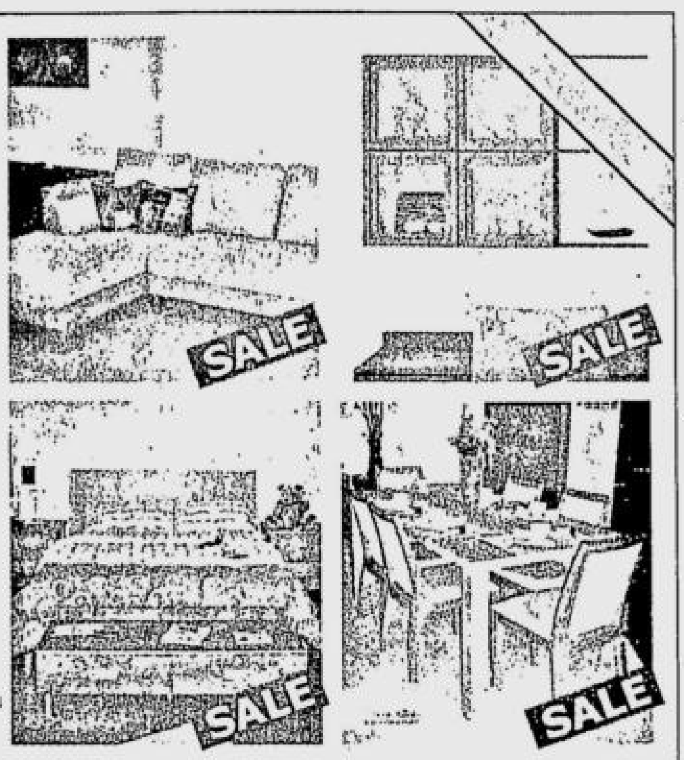
Myth 3. *Type 2 diabetes mellitus is a mild form of diabetes.*
False! Type 2 diabetes mellitus can be very serious. In fact, it is Type 2 diabetes mellitus that is closely associated with heart attack.

We will appreciate your feedback or queries as we go along. Please call us at 824-8736, fax no. 824-1345, e-mail at service@lifescanphilippines.jnj.com or visit our website http://lifescanphilippines.com.

Diabetes Center Philippines, Philippine Diabetes Association, Philippine Association of Endocrinology & Metabolism, Institute for the Studies of Diabetes Foundation & Johnson & Johnson Medical Philippines

Milestones

We're accepting announcements of weddings and engagements. Please send the following typewritten information: names of engaged couple, names of parents, date and place of wedding, gown designer and other related information. Readers can send sketches of gowns and pictures of the couple to the INQUIRER office, or P.O. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office 1263 Makati City; or e-mail lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph. This will be printed depending on space availability and at no cost to the sender.



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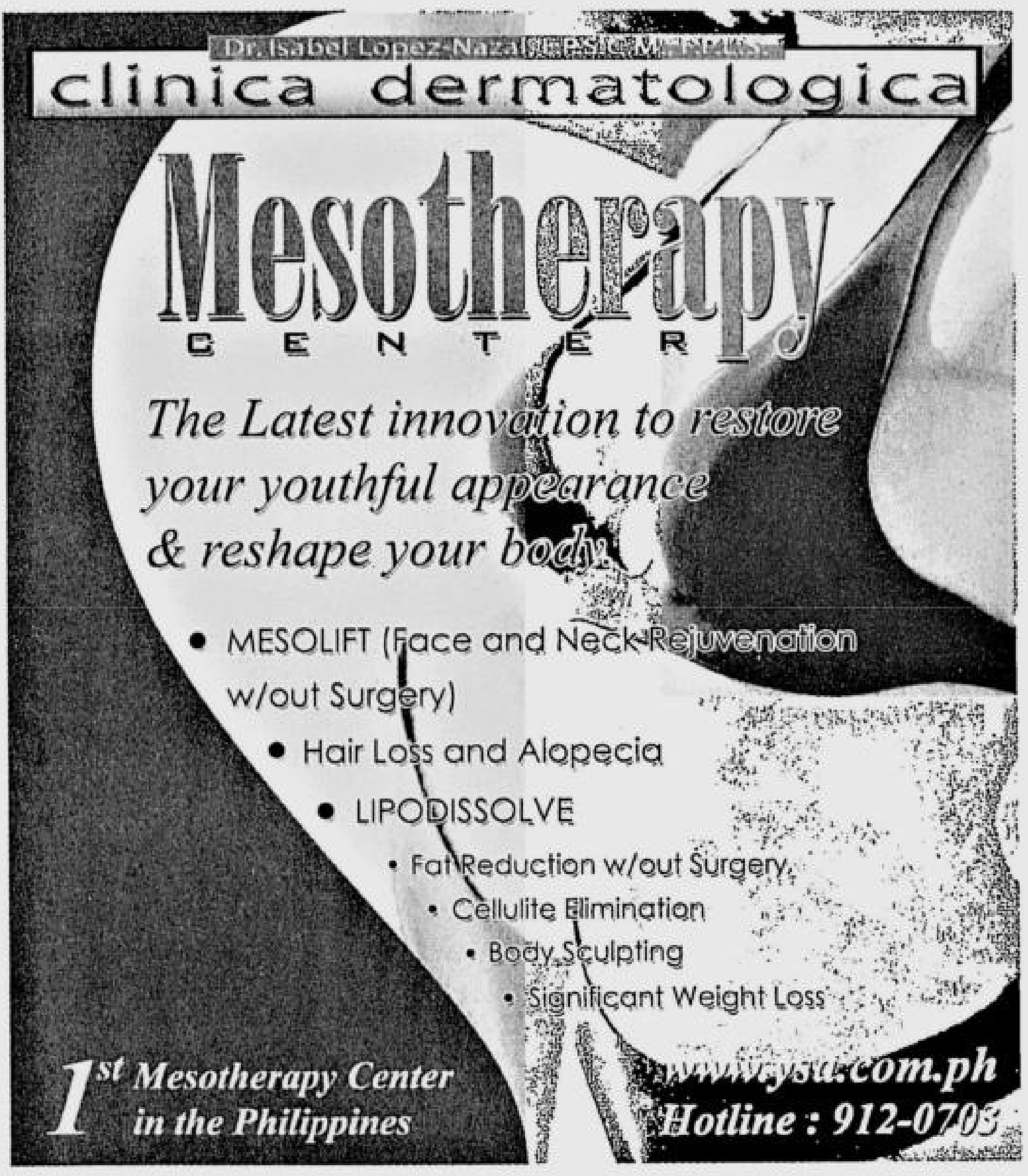

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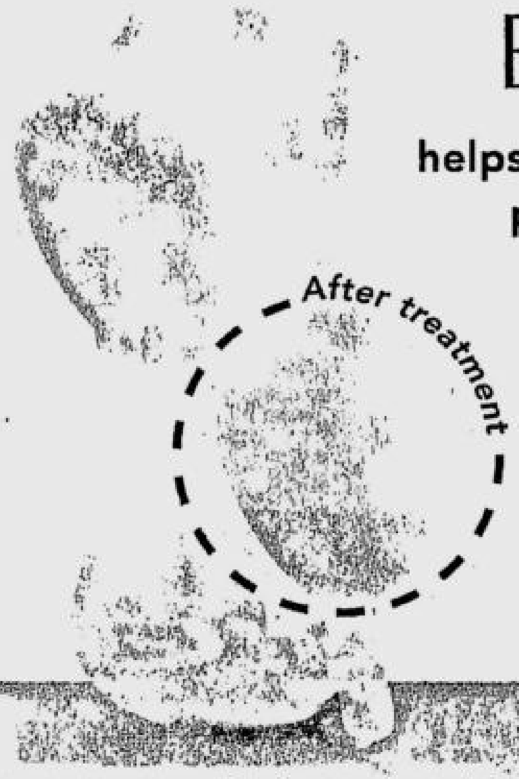

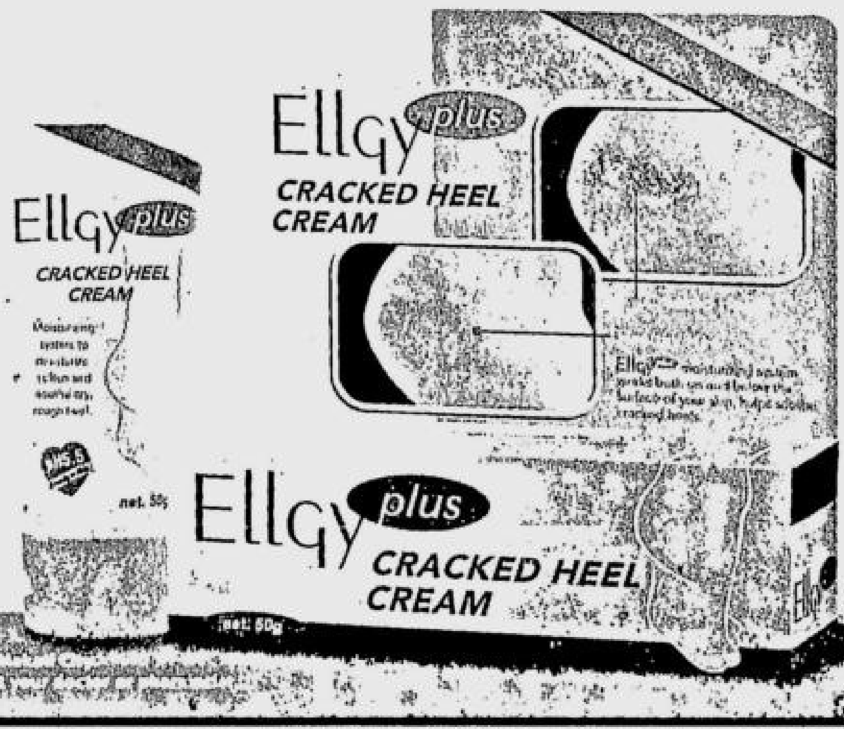

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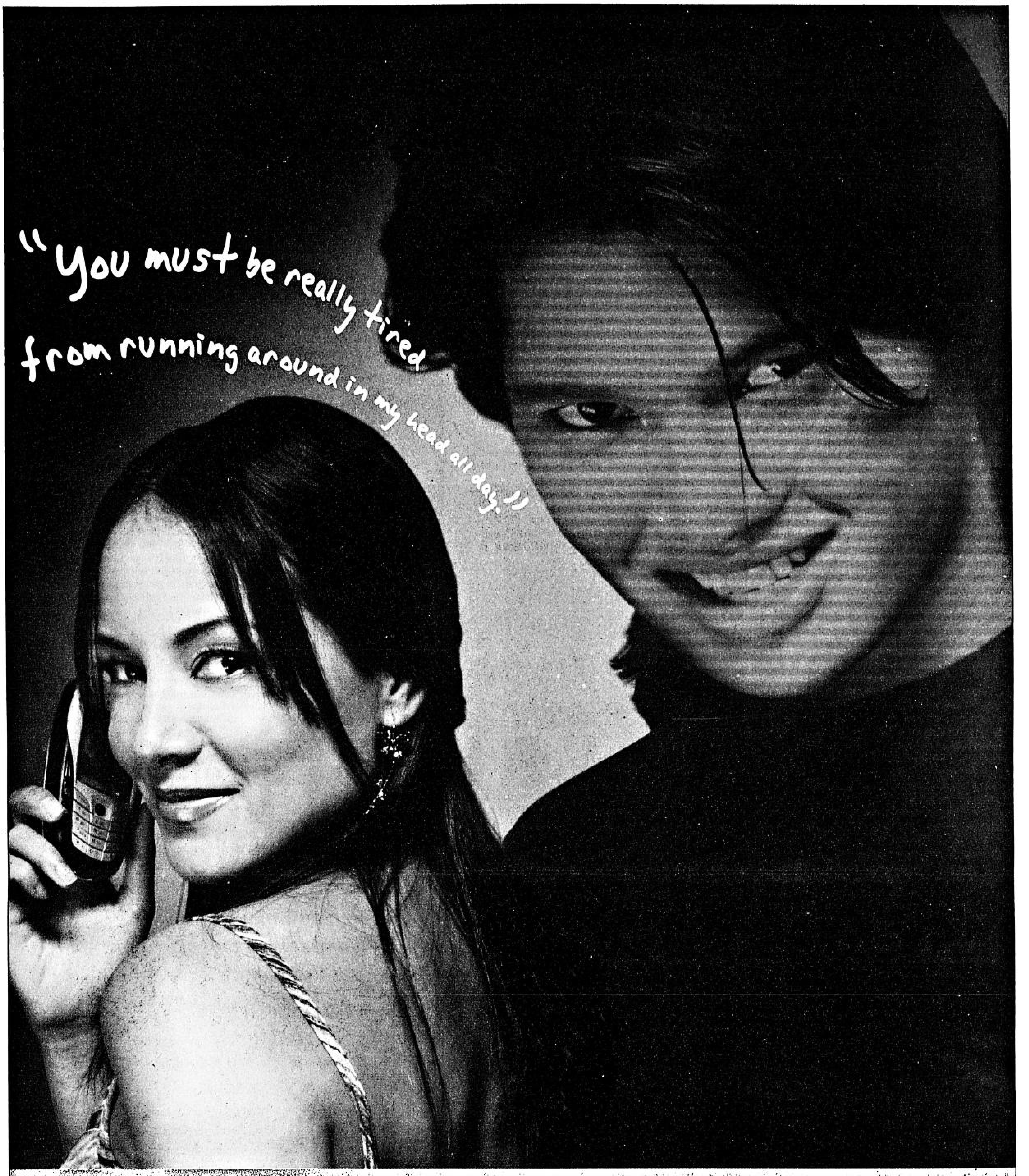
Ellgy plus with unique intensive moisturizing system works both on and below the surface of your skin. It is formulated with Saccharide Isomerate, a water magnet that attracts moisture to the skin.

Ellgy plus also contains Portulaca Extract, a natural source of Essential Fatty Acids which strengthens the epidermal lipid layer so that the moisture is then sealed into your skin to maintain natural moisturizing effect.

Ellgy plus is free from animal testing, color & fragrance.
Also recommended for diabetics as part of their regular foot care.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Rosanne Prieto • Derek Ramsay • **Bianca Araneta** • Tim Yap • **Vivien Tan** • Borgy Manotoc

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RING ID	TITLE	ENDORSER
100836	Car Make Over	Derek
100837	Driving Lesson	Derek
100838	Old School	Rosanne
100839	One on One	Rosanne
100840	Lost A Bet	Bianca
100841	Working Out	Bianca
100842	Shopping or Yoga?	Bianca / Rosanne
100843	Double Date	Bianca / Rosanne
100846	I Need My Fix	Borgy
100847	I'm Hooked	Borgy
100851	Late for the Party	Derek / Tim
100852	What a Drag	Derek / Tim
100853	Wild Party	Tim
100854	Surprise	Tim

TITLE	RING ID	TITLE	RING ID
Iris	100249	House party	100466
Unwell	100439	Turbulescense	100470
Never let you go	100434	Popular scene	100576
Come away with me	100241	Acid etched	100582
Just like a pill	100251	Breakneck speed	100583
I'm a slave 4 u	100248	Disturbed	100584
Nice to know you	100252	Razor blade	100590
Teenage dirtbag	100255	Severely twisted	100591
Bent	100240	Age of love 1	100748
Mad season	100432	Future is 1	100751
Tribal_afro_loopistic	100309	Holding onto nothing 1	100753
Bugaboo	100301	Lost forever 2	100756
Groovyjames_the_majordomo	100304	Mahadeva 1	100757
Heads_will_roll_and_rock	100305	Scaramanga 2	100760
Pulsing_pulsing_123	100306	Seduction 1	100761
Sexy_bellydancer	100307	Spaced out	100764
Dance-01-bopping groove	100035	The mian voyage	100765
Electronica-02-elastic	100186	Waking up the sun 1	100766
Dance-04-energetic	100266	Gun - machine - m16 - burst	100064
Dance-05-funky groove	100267	44 Magnum revolver	100347
Dance-06-hip groove	100268	Helicopter	100353
Electronica-01-dark	100269	Jet ski	100454
Check maker	100462	Harley davidson	100449

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SUNDAY, AUGUST 8, 2004

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CELEBRATING
Canada Day /I1

THE APCC Philippine delegation arrives in Japan: (foreground) Raichel Natividad, Fernan Tensuan, Wesly Cortez, Patrick Cruz, Mico Acuin, Abby Robles, Bea Gutierrez, APCC official; (background) Reb Salar, peace ambassador Michael Roberto, five APCC officials, official chaperone Nina Narciso, APCC official, peace ambassador Lissa Antonio and another APCC official.

Young Pinoy 'ambassadors'

EIGHT bright, talented young Filipino students represented the country in the recent 16th Asian-Pacific Children's Convention (APCC) in Fukuoka City, Japan.

Some 500 junior ambassadors from 46 countries attended the annual event. Theme of the APCC was "We Are the Bridge: We Connect Dreams Around the World."

The Philippine delegation was composed of Rebekah Yvs Salar, Patrick Ryan Cruz, Miguel Enrico Acuin and Wesly Paul Cortez from St. Benedict College; Raichel Natividad from St. Joseph's College; Ana Beatriz Robles and Mercedes Beatriz Gutierrez from Miriam College Grade School; and Emmanuel Fernando Tensuan from Ateneo Grade School. They were accompanied by Ma. Antonina Narciso of St. Benedict College as official chaperone and two former junior ambassadors, Lissa Antonio and Michael Roberto.

The convention aimed to promote mutual understanding in the region and to raise young people with a global perspective and community spirit. In Fukuoka City, the children joined a youth camp, performed Filipino dances and presented a special video during a forum on the environment. Each child lived with a Japanese family during the visit.

The APCC liaison officer in the Philippines is Faustino Roberto.

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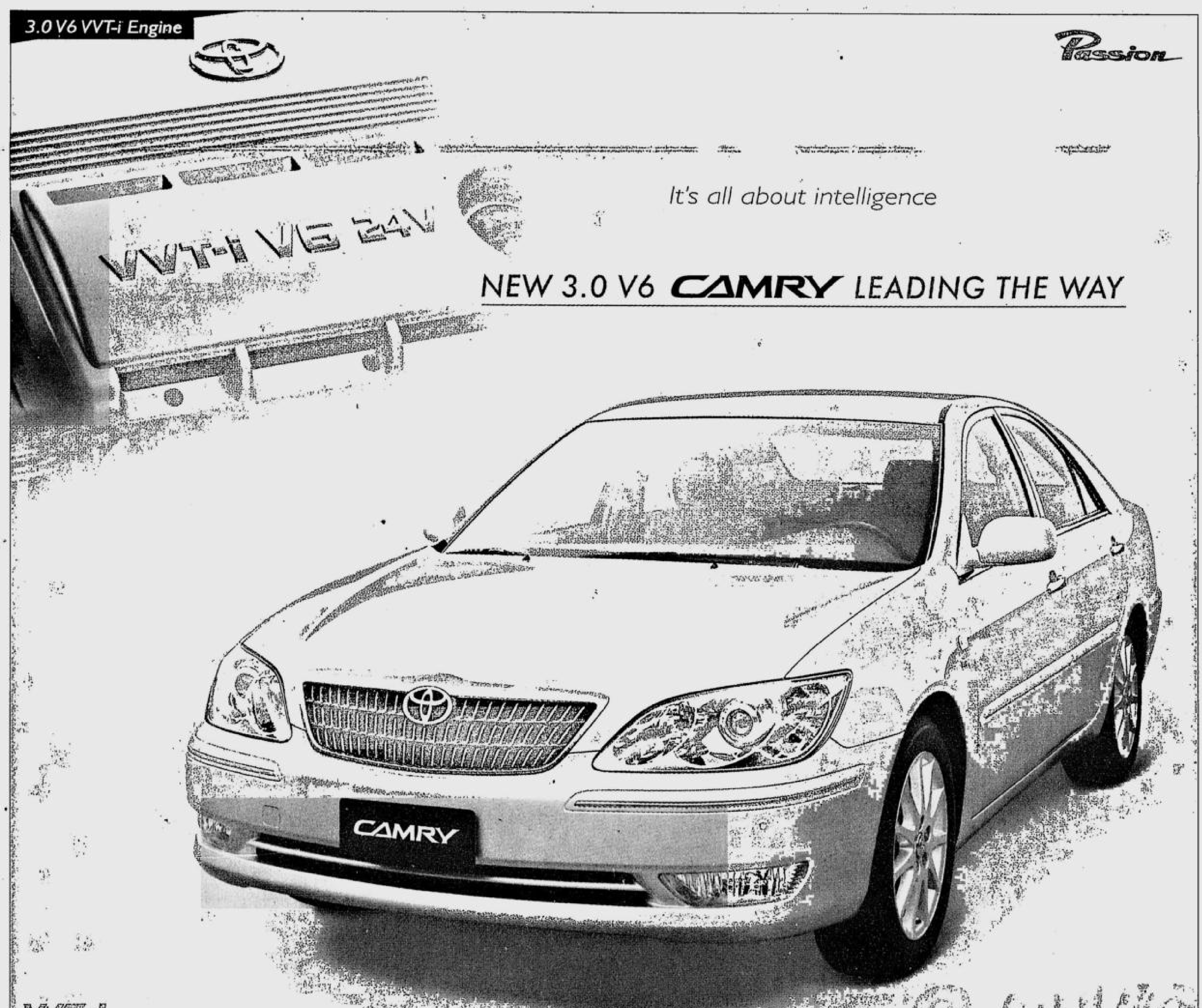

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TOYOTA

SARBETH (P239)

BLIMPIE (P239)

SURREY (P239)

For her eyes only

POPULAR model and television co-host Phoemela Baranda joins the latest roster of celebrity endorsers for the eyewear label i2i.

She is featured With actors Piolo Pascual and Jericho Rosales in the latest i2i ad campaign, "What are *you* looking for?"

The latest eyewear fashion from i2i allows Baranda not only to protect herself from harmful UV rays, but to look stylish from sun up to sun down. So, whether she's wearing her supermodel shades or the "I'm just the girl-next-door" glasses, Baranda is always safe and protected.

Carefully selected i2i eyeglasses are designed to also complement and enhance Asian facial features. Customers can choose models of various colors to reflect their mood or coordinate with their outfit.

TILBERIS (P159)

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D' Supah Search
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SMB PLAY MUSIC·SPORTS
MTV MUSIC TELEVISION

hosted by:
Tim Tayag
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Meet the Casting Directors.
Your future as a supahstar lies in their hands.

Radha
Tim Yap
Andrew E.

Impress them at the MTV Supahstar audition near you!

Watch it on MTV UHF channels 41 in Mega Manila and 29 in Cebu and Davao

The Supah Prizes:

Over 1 million pesos worth of prizes and incentives including your very own exclusive recording contract with Warner Music Philippines, supah launching concert, music video and CD

The Supah Audition Schedules:

SM City Cebu (Activity Area)
August 5, 2004 / 10am to 7pm

SM City Davao (Activity Area)
August 8, 2004 / 10 am to 7pm

SM City Baguio (Activity Area)
August 12, 2004 / 10 am to 7pm

SM Megamall Ortigas
(Bldg A Atrium)
August 28, 2004 / 10am to 7pm

* Application forms available in venue

The Supah Requirements:

Must be...

- male or female
- 18 - 25 years old
- Filipino citizen
- Non-professional artist (without existing recording contract)

Supah Important!

You can also grab an MTV Supahstar Application Form at Petron Treats (Davao, Baguio and MM only). Bring the accomplished application forms at the audition dates and venues specified above.

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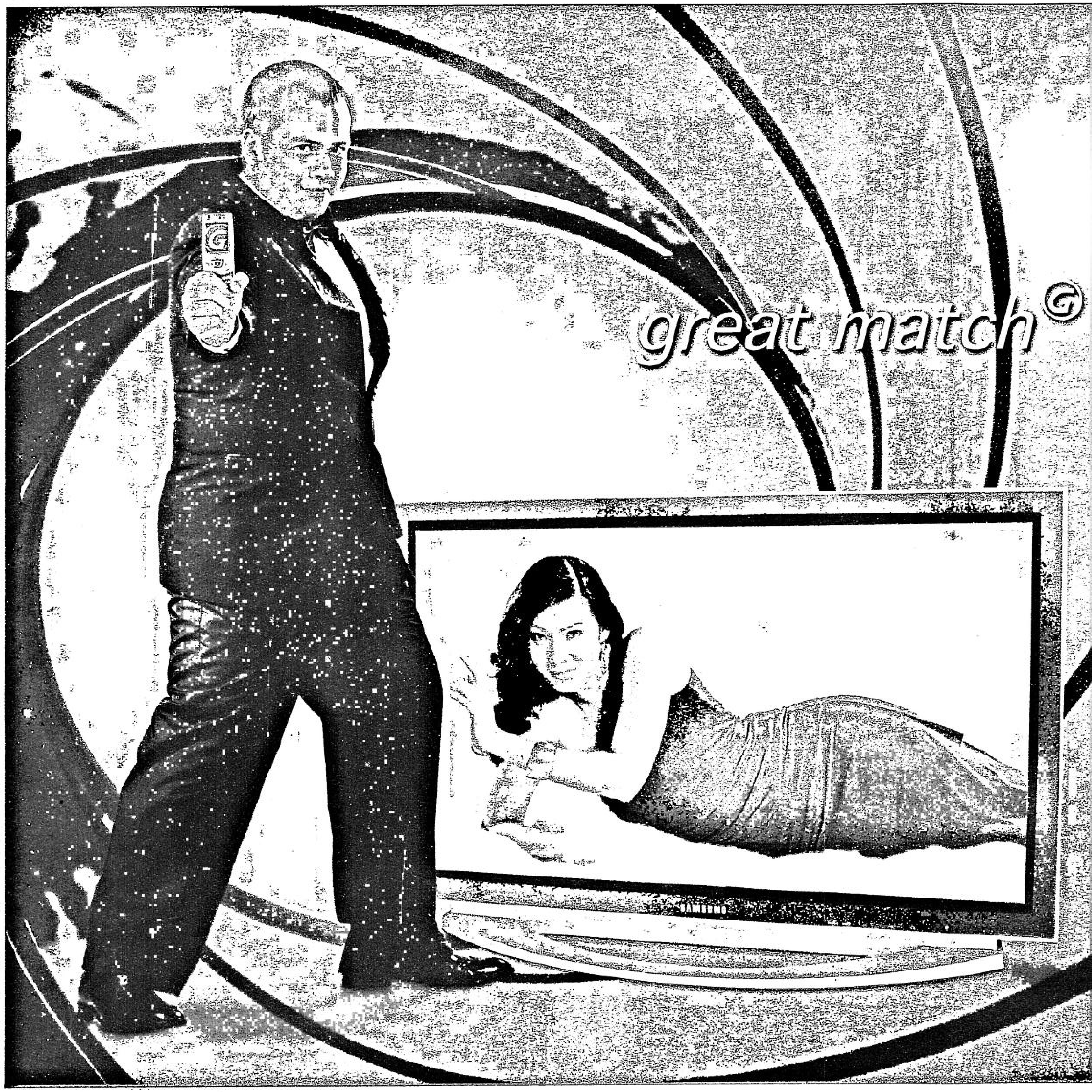

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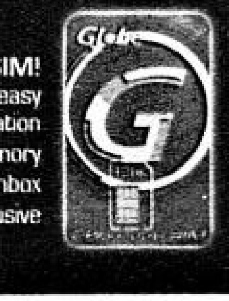

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ⓖFlex 2,500	P 2,500	350	P 4.50	P 5.50
ⓖFlex 3,500	P 3,500	400	P 4.00	P 4.50
ⓖFlex 5,000	P 5,000	400	P 4.00	P 4.50
ⓖFlex 7,000	P 7,000	600	P 4.00	P 4.50
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ⓖTalk Plus	P 1,800	450	350	P 4.50	P 6.00
ⓖMatch	P 2,500	550	500	P 4.00	P 5.50
ⓖMax	P 3,500	650	750	P 3.50	P 4.50
Platinum	P 5,000	650	1,100	P 3.50	P 4.50
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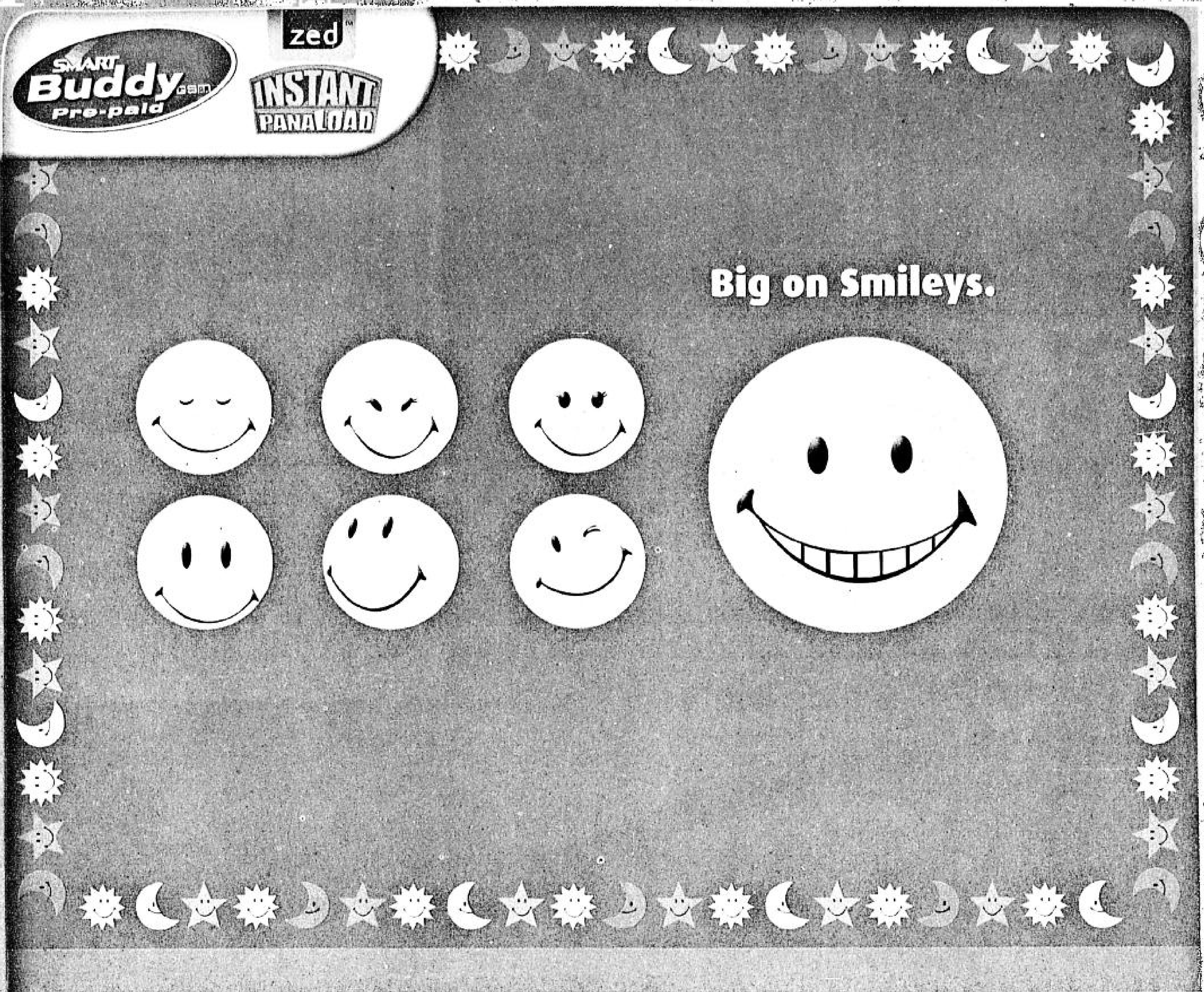

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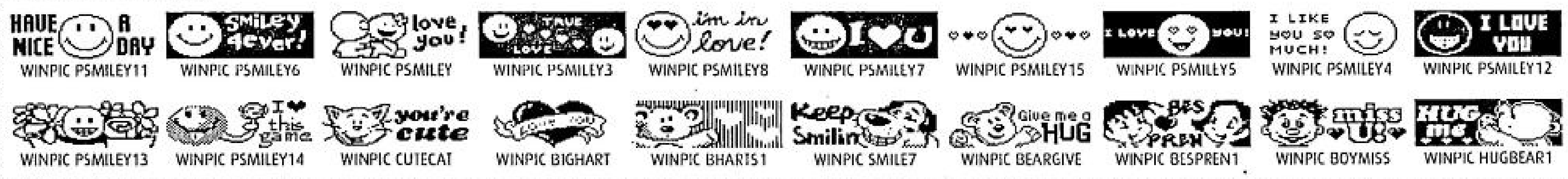

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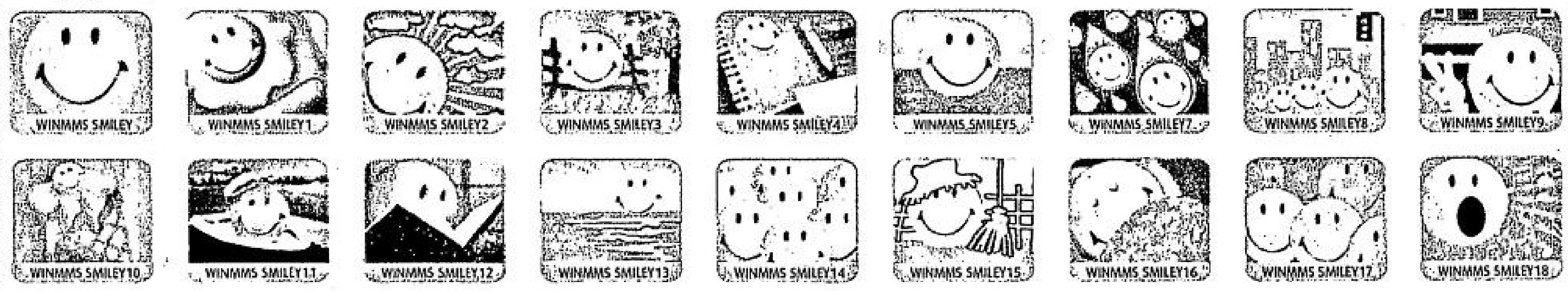

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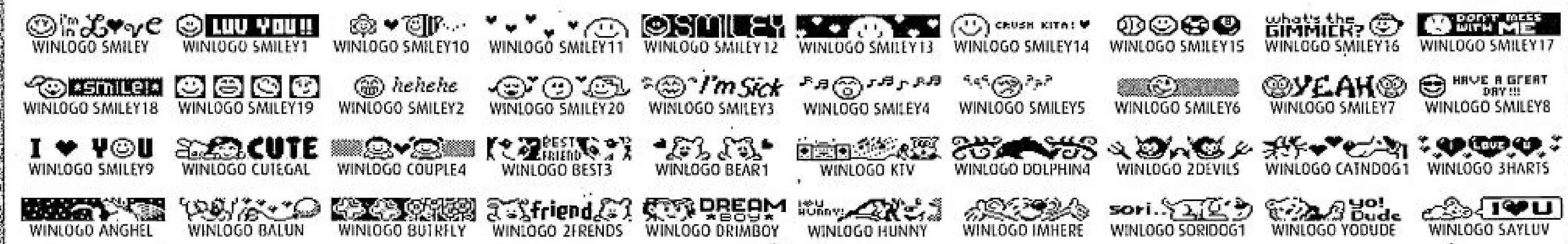

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Girl Logos	POWGAL
Guy Logos	POWGUY
Pic Message	POWPIC
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Poly Ringtones	POWPOLY
OPM Ringtones	POWOPM
Rock Ringtones	POWROCK
Wallpaper	POWMMS

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Mono tones

Song title	Artist/Composer	Tone keywords
Talk About Our Love	*Brandy feat. Kanye West*	**WINTONE TALKABOUT**
I'm Shakin'	*Rooney*	**WINTONE IMSHAKIN**
I'm Still In Love With You	*Sean Paul*	**WINTONE STILINLUV**
Let's Get It Started	*Black Eyed Peas*	**WINTONE LETSGET**
Sasakyan	*K & The Boxers*	**WINTONE SASAKYAN**
Hey Ya	*Outkast*	**WINTONE HEYYA**
Toxic	*Britney Spears*	**WINTONE TOXIC**
Hands To Heaven	*Christian Bautista*	**WINTONE HANDS2HVN**
99 Luftballoons	*Nena*	**WINTONE 99RED**
One Love	*Blue*	**WINTONE ONELOVE1**
A Thousand Miles	*Vanessa Carlton*	**WINTONE THOUSAND**
Rock Your Body	*Justin Timberlake*	**WINTONE ROCKYOUR**
Everything	*Alanis Morrissette*	**WINTONE EVERYTHING**
One Kiss	*B2K*	**WINTONE ONEKISS**
Butterfly	*Crazy Town*	**WINTONE BUTTERFLY2**
Can't Fight The Moonlight	*LeAnn Rimes*	**WINTONE CANTFYT**
Dancing Queen	*ABBA*	**WINTONE DANCEQUEEN**
Can't Lose You	*F4*	**WINTONE CANTLOSE**
Powerless	*Nelly Furtado*	**WINTONE POWERLESS**
Should I Stay Or Should I Go	*The Clash*	**WINTONE STAYORGO**

Poly tones

Song title	Artist/Composer	Poly keywords
Talk About Our Love	*Brandy feat. Kanye West*	**POLY TALKABOUT**
I'm Shakin'	*Rooney*	**POLY IMSHAKIN**
I'm Still In Love With You	*Sean Paul*	**POLY STILINLUV**
Let's Get It Started	*Black Eyed Peas*	**POLY LETSGET**
Sasakyan	*K & The Boxers*	**POLY SASAKYAN**
Hey Ya	*Outkast*	**POLY HEYYA**
Toxic	*Britney Spears*	**POLY TOXIC**
Hands To Heaven	*Christian Bautista*	**POLY HANDS2HVN**
99 Luftballoons	*Nena*	**POLY 99RED**
One Love	*Blue*	**POLY ONELOVE**
A Thousand Miles	*Vanessa Carlton*	**POLY THOUSAND**
Rock Your Body	*Justin Timberlake*	**POLY ROCKYOUR**
Everything	*Alanis Morrissette*	**POLY EVERYTHING**
One Kiss	*B2K*	**POLY ONEKISS**
Butterfly	*Crazy Town*	**POLY BUTTERFLY**
Can't Fight The Moonlight	*LeAnn Rimes*	**POLY CANTFYT**
Dancing Queen	*ABBA*	**POLY DANCEQUEEN**
Can't Lose You	*F4*	**POLY CANTLOSE**
Powerless	*Nelly Furtado*	**POLY POWERL**
Should I Stay Or Should I Go	*The Clash*	**POLY STAYORGO**

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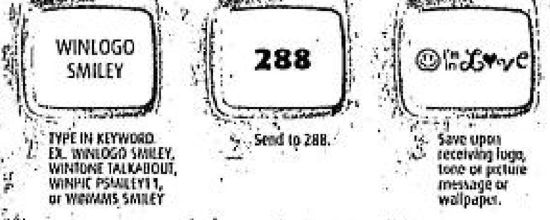

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SUNDAY, AUGUST 8, 2004

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Sunday LIFESTYLE

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Most grandiose Canada Day celebration

CEBU CEBU

Jaime Picornell

THE AMBASSADOR of Canada, **Peter Sutherland**, and his wife **Jo-Lynn** were in Cebu for a series of events to celebrate Canada Day. Highlight of the observance was a grand reception at the Atlantic Hall of The Waterfront Hotel.

Each of the guests were formally presented by Canada's honorary consul in Cebu, **Robert Lee**, and his wife **Anna.** They were congratulated for making this the most grandiose celebration of Canada Day in Cebu so far.

A good representation came from the Canadian Embassy in Manila: **David da Silva, Richard Bake, Chris Daniels, Butch de la Cruz** and **Irma Angeles.** Also here were **Lynette Trocino** from Canada Fund and **Restie Male** of Pearl 2 Project.

Vice-mayor **Michael Rama** of Cebu City was there and watched, with Ambassador Sutherland and Consul Lee, as a slab of Canadian roast beef was ceremonially carved by the Waterfront's executive chef, **Dietmar Dietrich.** The occasion also launched the Canadian Food Festival at the hotel's Cafe Uno.

There was a good sampling of Canadian food on the buffet. Everyone made a beeline for the Fanny Bay oysters served on a bed of crushed ice. We just had to seek out **Ma. Christine Dy** of Belcris Foods and get her address in Mandaue City, as they distribute them by the crate.

Mina Gabor, former secretary of tourism, was present, very much into her role as Philippine-Canada Business Council president. Earlier in the day, Ambassador Sutherland attended a luncheon of the Cebu Chamber of Commerce and Industry, where she gave a briefing on three matters of paramount importance to Cebu businessmen.

First was on business opportunities in Canada; second, the participation of Cebu in a business mission to Canada next August; and third, Cebu's presence in the Canadian National Exposition in Toronto in 2005.

The day after the reception Ambassador Sutherland visited the northern municipality of Sogod to present a check to **Angelito Gueverola,** country manager of the World Corps project. Funded by Canada, the project gives computer training to children and elderly people of Sogod.

Ambassador and Ms. Sutherland also attended the 25th anniversary of the Children's Center of Cebu, an orphanage partly funded by Canada.

French spring

Cebu had a whiff of French Spring as the embassy of France sent the brilliant guitar Duo Astor for a performance, and also held a festival of French films. Both events were standing-room-only affairs. The Duo Astor performed at the City Sports Club Cebu, while the films were shown at Cinema 5 of the Ayala Center.

Ambassador of France **Renée Veyret** came for the occasion and addressed the elegant crowd that attended the guitar recital. "You don't have to leave your beautiful island to enjoy this delightful music; we bring it to you," she said.

The French embassy found a ready partner in the Arts Council for presentations like this one. The very energetic president **Petite Garcia** is a human dynamo. This event was chaired by vice president **Maxwell Espina,** one of Cebu's most prominent architects.

The Duo Astor is composed of pretty **Gaelle Chiche** and **Francisco Bernier,** who is part Spanish. "We are very happy to be here tonight," they told the audience before they started playing their first piece, "Fantasie" by **Fernando Sor,** the Beethoven of guitar.

The piece was followed by two compositions by **Mario Castelnuovo-Tedesco**—"Prelude and Fugue in E Major," and "Fuga Elegiaca for Two Guitars"—dedicated to the memory of **Ida Presti.** Closing the first part of the program were five "Gypsy Dances" by **Joaquin Turina.** From the titles, one could tell the composer drew inspiration from Granada—"Zambra," "Danza de la Seduccion," "Danza Ritual," "Generalife" and "Sacromonte."

The second part, starting with Vivaldi's "Concerto in D Major," drew murmurs of delight. Then came "Toccata for Two Guitars" by **Pierre Petit**, whose death in 2000 is still mourned by Gaelle and Francisco. Petit was a dear friend of the guitarists, and he often rehearsed this piece, which was inspired by **Gershwin,** with them.

The finale had three famous compositions by **Manuel de Falla**—"Danza del Molinero," "Romanza del Pescador" and "Spanish Dance No. 1" from "La Vida Breve." Amid tumultuous applause flowers were presented to the artists. Arts Council founder **Fe Sala Villarica** put a lei on Francisco while Ambassador Veyret gave Gaelle a bouquet.

The audience gave the performers a standing ovation and did not stop until the duo gave an encore—Tarega's "Recuerdos de la Alhambra." It hushed and stunned everyone for, as many said, it was the best part of the entire performance.

FRENCH Ambassador Renée Veyret (center) with Duo Astor's Francisco Bernier and Gaelle Chiche

Culinary
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200

CUTTING the Canadian beef. Cebu City Vice Mayor Michael Rama, Canadian Ambassador Peter Sutherland, Waterfront Hotel executive chef Dietmar Dietrich and Canada's honorary consul in Cebu, Robert Lee

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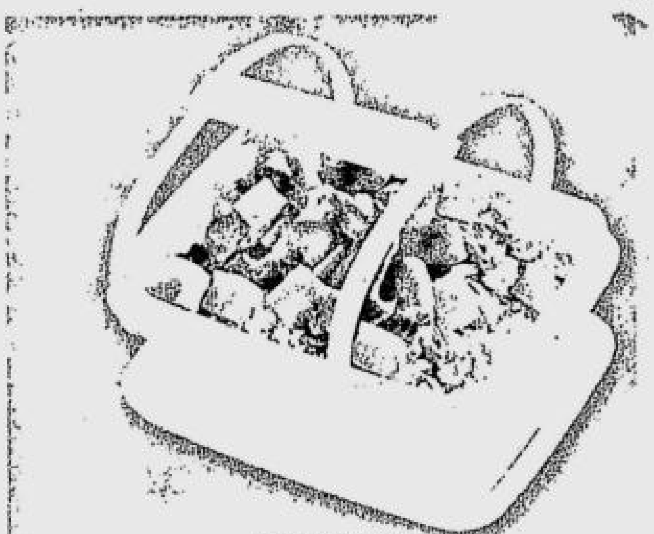

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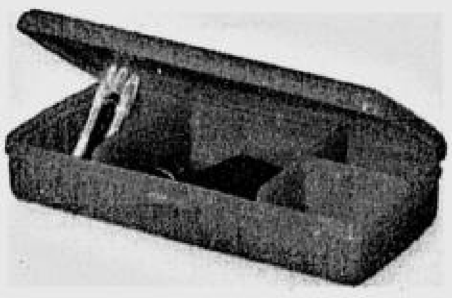

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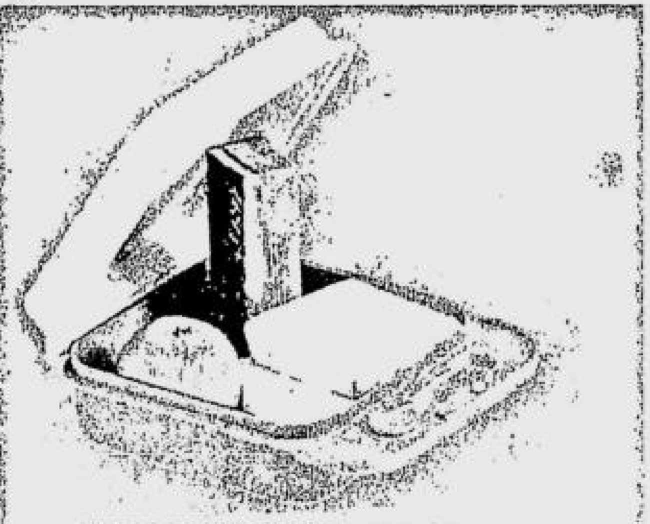

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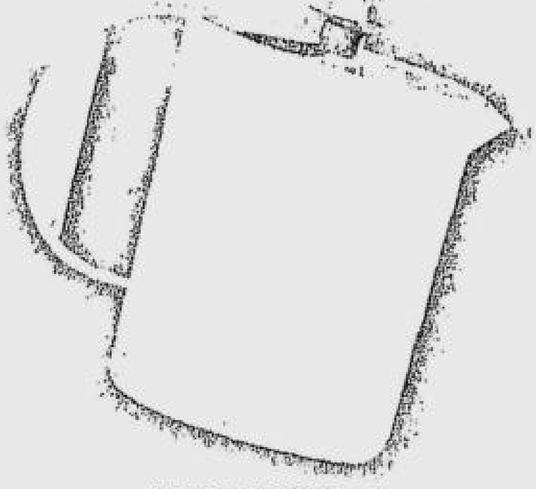

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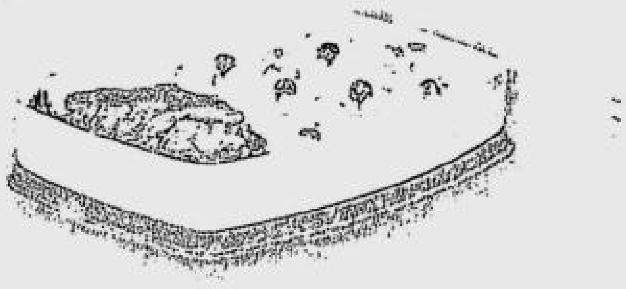

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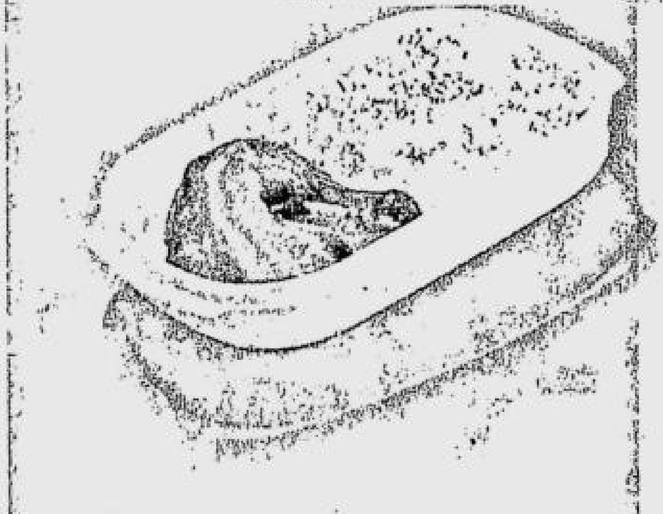

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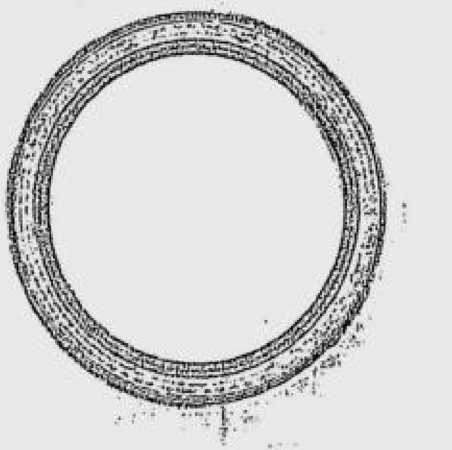

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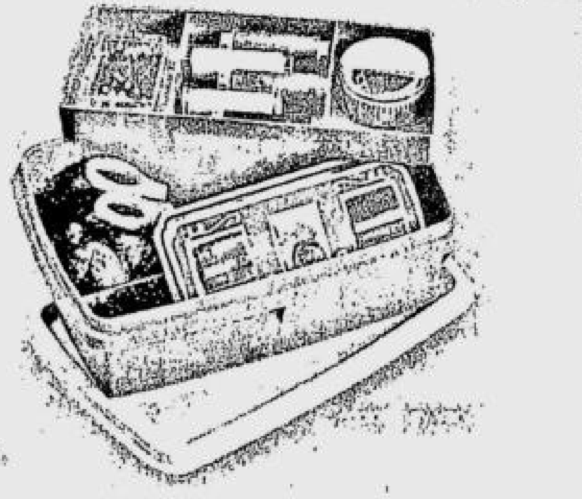

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Per DTI-NCR Permit no. 3624 series of 2004

Tarlac hosts launch of National Eucharistic Marian Year

PURELY PERSONAL

Josephine Darang

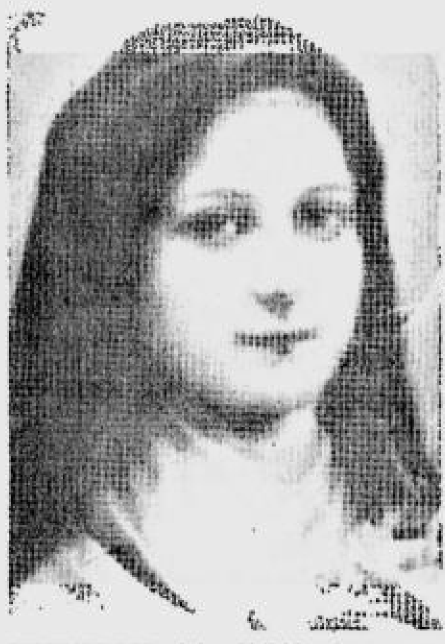
THE DIOCESE of Tarlac, specifically the Tarlac Plazuela in Tarlac City, will host the opening of the National Eucharistic Marian Year at 8 a.m. on Aug. 15. Papal Nuncio Antonio Franco will officiate in the 9 a.m. concelebrated Mass with bishops and priests.

On the eve of the opening, 7 p.m.-12 midnight, vigils will be held in designated Marian shrines in Tarlac.

The declaration of the National Eucharistic Marian Year was made during the recent Plenary Assembly of the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines (CBCP).

The event marks the 150th anniversary of the papal definition of the Dogma of the Immaculate Conception (defined by Pope Blessed Pius IX, in the 1854 Papal Bull, *Ineffabilis Deus*). Under this title, we invoke the Blessed Mother as the principal patroness of the Philippines.

Last Corpus Christi, the Holy Father, John Paul II, declared October 2004-October 2005 as International Year of the Eucharist. During the CBCP assembly, Filipino bishops combined the two pillars of our Faith—the Eucharist and Mary—by declaring a Eucharistic Year with Mary.



ST. THERESE of the Child Jesus

The celebration is Marian in nature and eucharistic in emphasis.

The Holy Father, who called on people to "start afresh with Christ," declared the International Year of the Eucharist. Its start will coincide with the International Eucharistic Congress in Guadalajara, Mexico.

The Holy Father has referred to Mary as the Woman of the Eucharist and has invited us to contemplate Christ through her eyes.

The idea for a National Marian Year (modified to Eucharistic Year with Mary) came from the diocese of Tarlac, through its bishop, Most Rev. Florentino F. Cinense, DD.

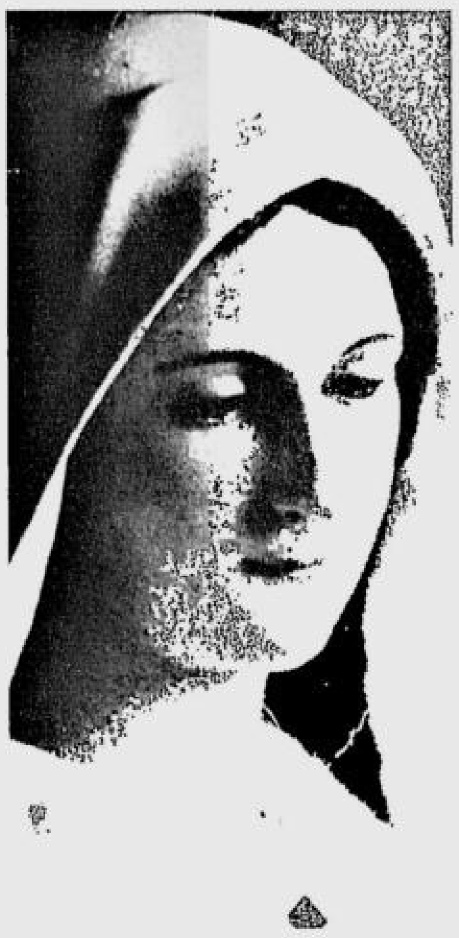
We ask for help in making this celebration a success. Donations in cash and kind are welcome. Checks should be payable to the Tarlac Marian Fund. Call Rev. Fr. Melvin Castro at 045-9281792/9821910 (Racho Maria) or 045-9820859 (Tarlac Diocesan Chancery).

Pilgrimage to Liseux

The feast of St. Therese of the Child Jesus falls on Oct. 1, but the Parish of St. Therese in Ramos, Tarlac will celebrate it on Oct. 5, Sunday. The next day, Oct. 6, the parish priest, Fr. Archie Cortez, will lead pilgrims to Liseux, France, site of the Basilica of St. Therese.

In Liseux, birthplace of the saint, the pilgrims will visit the house where she was born. The relic of the saint is in St. Pierre Cathedral.

World's Wonder, organizer of the trip, is also bringing pilgrims to the shrines of the Miraculous Medal in Paris, then to Nevers where the incorruptible body of St. Bernadette lies in the Convent of St. Gildard.



OUR Lady, Mary Mediatrix of All Grace

The itinerary includes Paray Le Monial, site of the church where the Sacred Heart appeared to St. Mary Margaret Alocoque; La Sallette, where the weeping Blessed Mother appeared to two shepherd girls and where one can drink water from the spring where Mary appeared; then Lourdes in France, and Zaragoza, Madrid, Avila, Peña de Francia (to see the original image of Our Lady of Peñafrancia) in Spain; Fatima, Santarem, and Lisbon, Portugal. Travel dates are Oct. 6-19.

Text Susan Ty at 0918-9280332 or call tel. 7266162 or 7183253.

200th anniversary

The 200th anniversary of the discovery of the holy remains of St. Philomena will be celebrated Aug. 11 in, among others, the Holy Redeemer Church in Masambong, QC; Ermita Church, Manila; and the basilica in Avelino, Italy.

St. Philomena will also be honored at the Santuario de Santa Philomena, Most Holy Redeemer Parish, Malac-Inaman Streets, Masambong, San Francisco del Monte, QC. Novena Masses are ongoing at 6 p.m. until Aug. 10. A procession will be held at 4 p.m. on Aug. 8.

On the feast day on Aug. 11, Masses will be at 6 a.m., 9 a.m., 12 noon and 6:30 p.m.

Directory for youth

The Episcopal Commission on Youth (ECY) of the CBCP launched "Ka-lakbay: Directory for Catholic Youth Ministry in the Philippines" on the first day of the National Youth Coordinating Council 2004 meeting in the diocese of Surigao.

The meeting was held at the Cathedral of San Nicolas de Tolentino. His Excellency, Most Rev. Antonieto Cabajog, DD, was host. A total of 43 youth ministers from different regions of the Philippines, together with the clergy and the lay-faithful of the host-diocese, witnessed the first launch.

"Ka-lakbay" provides guidelines and directions (hence the term directory) to the existing Philippine youth ministry. Guidelines and directions are taken from the present practice of, and from research and studies on, youth ministry. "Ka-lakbay" is a happy blend of theory and action.

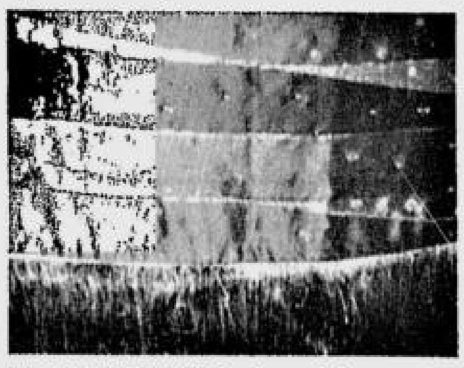
The ECY, with Most Rev. Rolando J. Tria Tirona, OCD, DD, as chair, held a second launch Aug. 2 at the San Carlos Seminary Auditorium, Edsa, Guadalupe, Makati City.

Journey to priesthood

Peter Rey Romero has an interesting story to tell. Since his siblings were against his becoming a priest, he went to the seminary accompanied by Fr. Gene Rafal, former parish priest in Queen's Row. Peter's mother, Cely, was in Catarman, Samar, at the time.

Before that day in March, he walked from Queen's Row to Malate Church and knelt before the Our Lady of Remedies, asking for help to enter the seminary.

When he went with Fr. Gene to the Our Lady of the Pillar Seminary in Imus, he was told they were no longer accepting applications. But God's will prevailed. Peter was allowed to take the exam, which he passed. Those who wish to help him can call 046-8757232.



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The best of Mindanao on exhibit

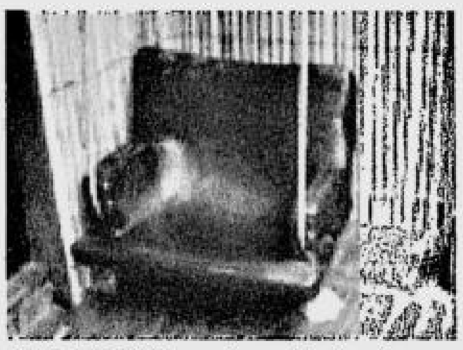
THE MINDANAO Trade Expo Foundation Inc., in partnership with the Department of Trade and Industry-Region 11, will be staging the Mindanao Trade Expo (MTE) 2004 in Manila on Aug. 18-22 at the Megatrade Hall 2 of SM Megamall, Metro Manila.

A product exhibit as well as a showcase of Mindanao lifestyles, MTE 2004 will feature over 100 exhibitors representing trade and industry, tourism, agriculture, science and technology sectors in Mindanao, and SMEs outside of Mindanao but sourcing materials from the island.

The fair will exhibit and sell products like gifts, toys and houseware, furniture and furnishings, home textile, fashion accessories, fine jewelry, processed food, agro-industry goods (fresh fruits and vegetables, flowers and ornamentals, etc.), tourism services and facilities, related service providers and machineries.

The exhibit will also include food tastings, fellowship and cocktails events, and an Investment and Tourism Center that will showcase the different destinations and areas of investment in Mindanao.

Call 82-2222261 or 2243750, fax 82-2225161 or 2243750, or e-mail mtefi@ultimate.info.com.ph or mtefoundation@yahoo.com.



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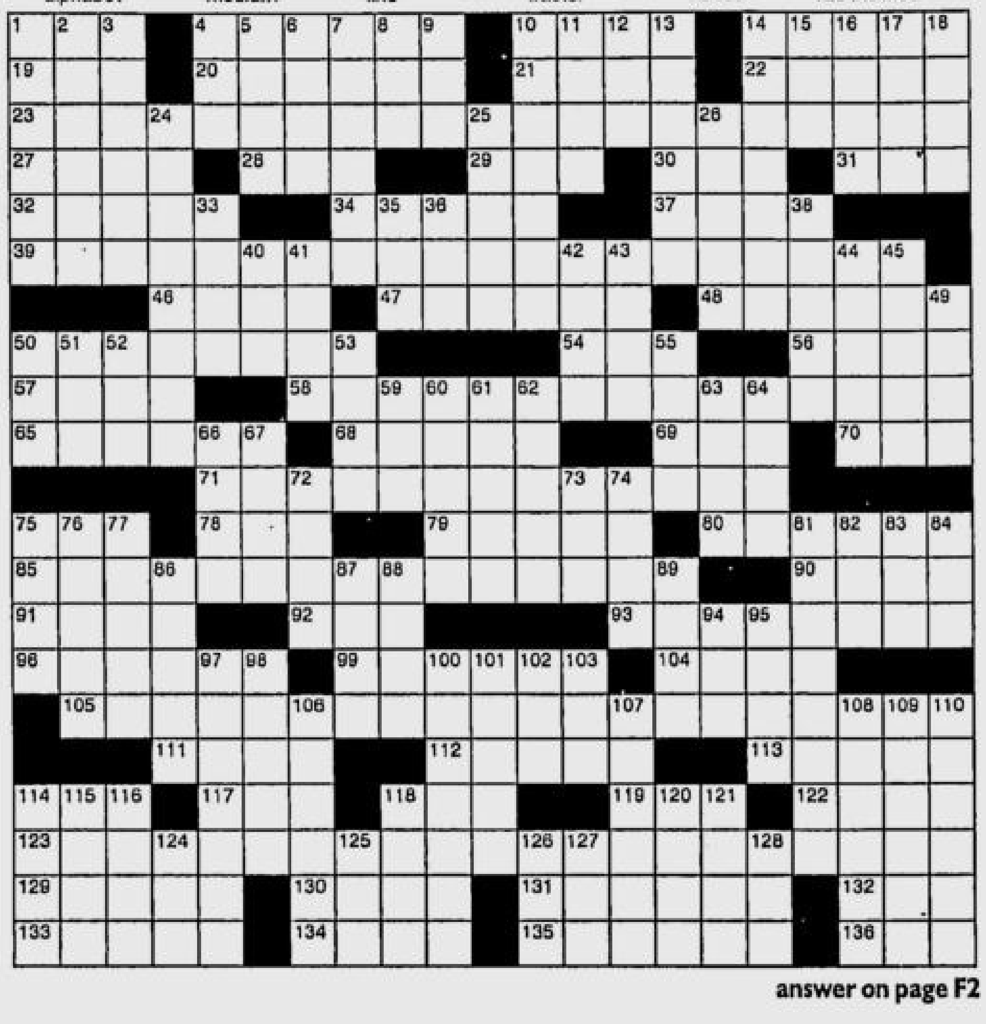
ACROSS

1 King or mode lead-in
4 Bailey's circus partner
10 Clinton's veep
14 Volkswagen model
19 PC key
20 No longer 34 Across
21 Russian range
22 Swash-buckler Flynn
23 Start of a quip
27 Somalian supermodel
28 Lummox
29 "Sesame Street" network
30 Actor McKellen
31 Genetic ID
32 Colossal
34 On the briny
37 Capital of Yemen
39 Quip, part 2
46 In — of
47 Hoi — (masses)
48 Irks
50 Like the Russian alphabet
54 "—, verily!"
56 Onion's cousin
57 Blessing
58 Quip, part 3
65 Legacy producer
68 Be a hammy actor
69 Playskool product
70 With 82 Down, recruit's reply
71 Quip, part 4
75 That boy's
78 Buddhist branch
79 Cradle rocker, perhaps
80 Sci-fi weapon
85 Quip, part 5
90 Sputtered and stopped
91 Painter Jan van der —
92 — Kippur
93 Sets aside for a specific use
96 City in SW California
99 Settled in snugly
104 Tide type
105 Quip, part 6
111 2.2 pounds
112 Ham's medium
113 Devalue
114 Auditing org.
117 "— favor, senor!"
118 Needlefish
119 Pas' partners
122 Annoy
123 End of the quip
129 Over
130 Extended family
131 Abduct
132 Director's cry
133 Persian Gulf nation
134 "K-K-K- —" (1918 song)
135 Add, as text
136 Pinafore inits.

DOWN

1 Head Hun
2 Good guy with a gun
3 On the bus, e.g.
4 Prohibit
5 Memo opener
6 Emu's cousin
7 Like some yogurt
8 Mantel piece
9 "Drop — line"
10 Candy machine treat
11 Vein pursuits?
12 Rubbish rummager
13 Kay Thompson title girl
14 "I Dream of —"
15 Be human
16 Stomped (on)
17 Cel character
18 — Romeo
24 Actress Jolie
25 Wizard's weapon
26 Civil rights org.
33 Wicked
35 Male sheep, in Sheffield
36 — Tome and Principe
38 "A Passage to India" heroine
40 "Electric" fish
41 "Bonne —!"
42 Toy that makes a comeback?
43 God, in Grenoble
44 Each
45 Name on a tractor
49 "The — the limit!"
50 "Good buddies" use them
51 Not me
52 Burglarize
53 Guitarist Atkins
55 Counter-tenor
59 CPR expert
60 Like a tot
61 Scarecrow stuffer
62 Salon dye
63 Arrange, as hair
64 Legend
66 Knock down
67 Secondhand
72 "500" race
73 Naval off.
74 Unit of force
75 Web pages are written in it
76 "Rumor has it . . ."
77 "If they could — now!"
81 Plug attachments
82 See 70 Across
83 Comic shriek
84 Blvds., e.g.
86 Inflict, as havoc
87 Skye of the screen
88 Santa Fe is its cap.
89 Pungency
94 Yank's foe
95 Really rough up
97 Cinderella lost one
98 Dole out
100 A bit too thin
101 Papal crown
102 O'Hare abbr.
103 Nero's 502
106 "Alas, poor — . . ."
107 Wanderers
108 Jerk rapidly
109 Blimp filler
110 Raises
114 Baghdad's land
115 Singer McEntire
116 Nae sayer?
118 Biting fly
120 Singer Murray
121 Asterisk
124 Sculptor Hesse
125 Ending for Motor
126 Hit the slopes
127 "Jaws" sighting
128 Inclined



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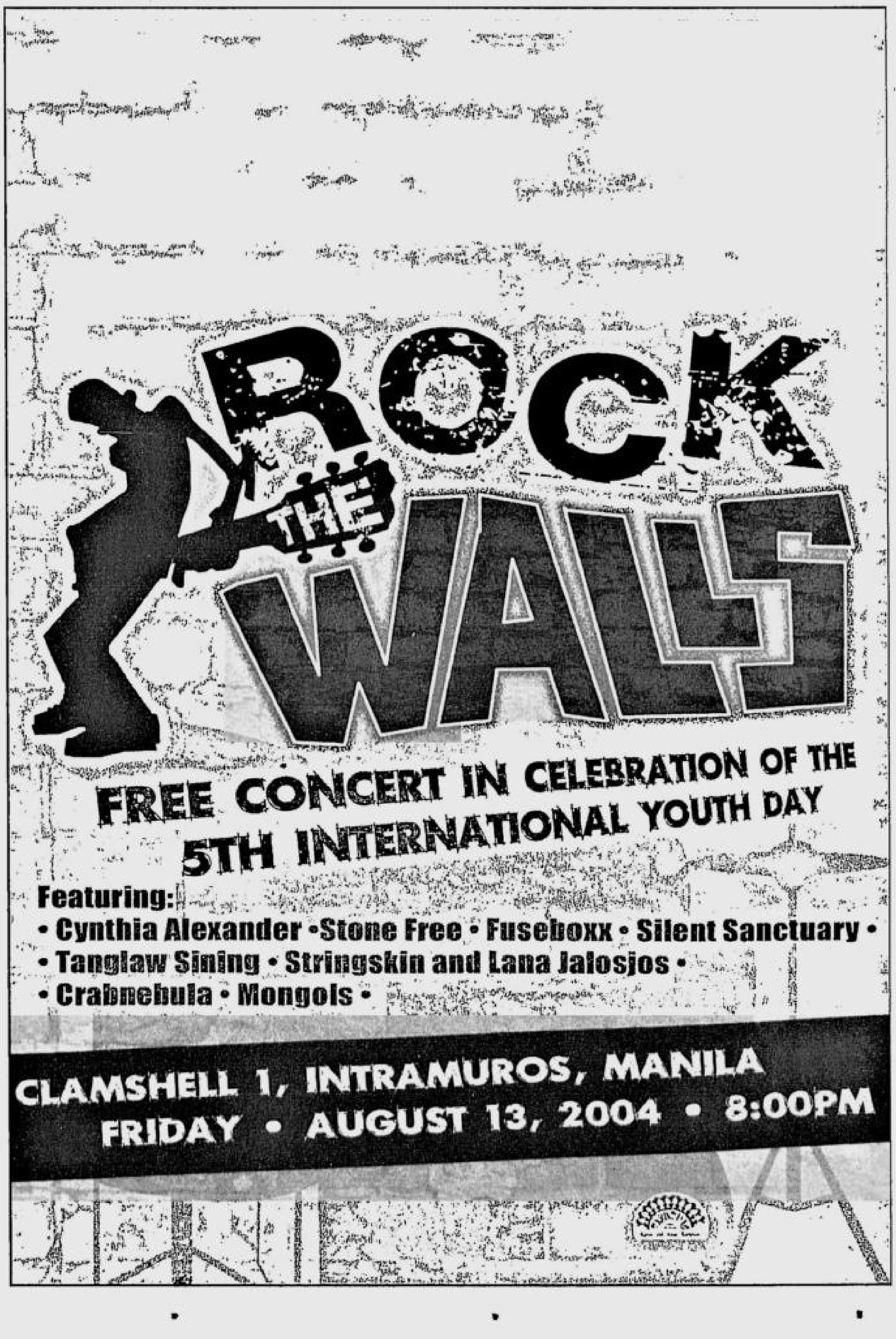

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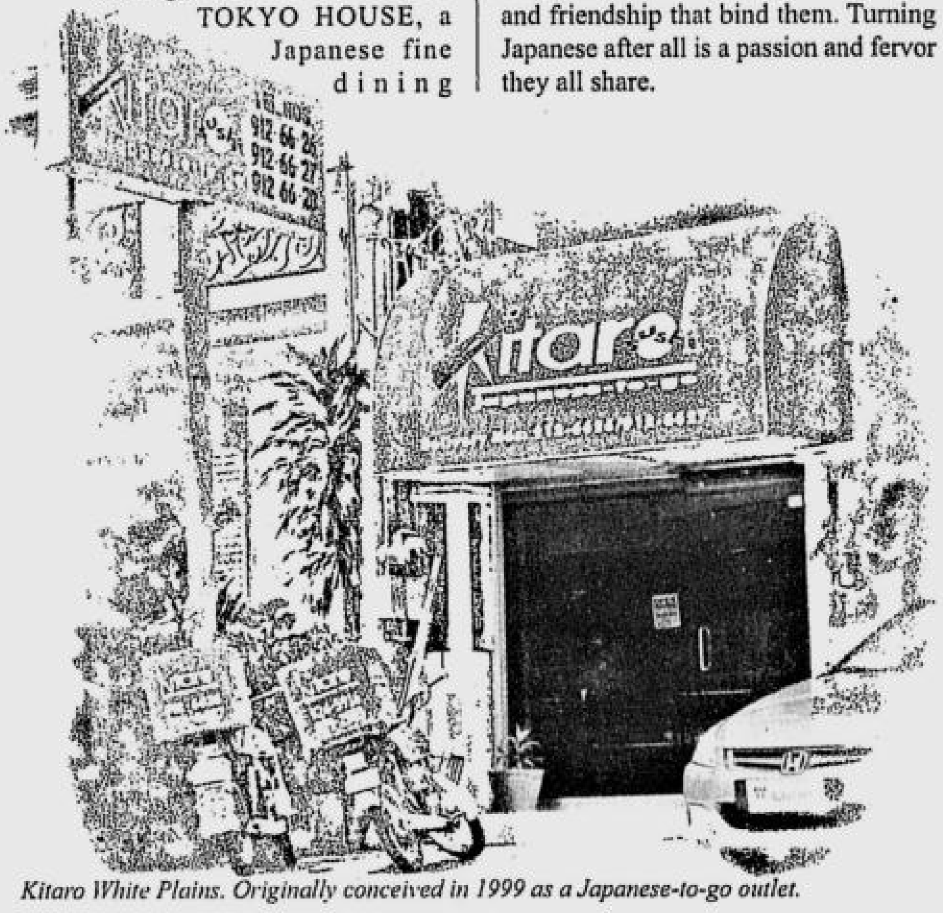
KITARO soars high on its 5th year

HIGH ON
5
ANNIVERSARY
KITARO

In 1998, four friends and three siblings pulled all their resources together and went into the T-shirt direct selling business. Just a year later, the seven friends found themselves saddled with shrinking T-shirt sales and loan obligations. Unfazed, they vowed never to leave each other, for richer or for poorer.

Fotunately for this group, the three siblings used to own NEW TOKYO HOUSE, a Japanese fine dining restaurant in the 80's. A successful venture that lasted for 15 years. So in search of a business bail out, the siblings thought of re-inventing the fine dining into a casual dining.And viola - they opened their very first modest casual dining restaurant at White Plains and called it KITARO Sushi.

Today, just five years later, KITARO has 27 branches nationwide. The 4 friends and 3 siblings are glad of the ties and friendship that bind them. Turning Japanese after all is a passion and fervor they all share.


Kitaro White Plains. Originally conceived in 1999 as a Japanese-to-go outlet.

KITARO'S SUSHI PARTY TRAY. This bestseller is a must-have in all corporate parties.

Says Kitaro President Ms. Grace ChuaChiaco, "The secret of Kitaro is the fresh ingredients and the treasured old Japanese recipes passed on by New Tokyo House."

Not content, Kitaro never fails to reinvent itself. After all, it was KITARO that introduced the signature SUSHI PARTY TRAYS. A real value for money, a must-have in all corporate parties.

Ms. ChuaChiaco also declares that food tasting sessions are done to widen its menu list. "We have also created the Bento Budget Buster meals priced at P89 to cater to budget conscious patrons.", adds Grace. The real challenge though lies in standardizing taste and quality. That is the reason why early this year KITARO invested in a bigger central commissary. "Our cooks at the branches are regularly asked to report at the commissary for actual cooking lessons", declares Grace.

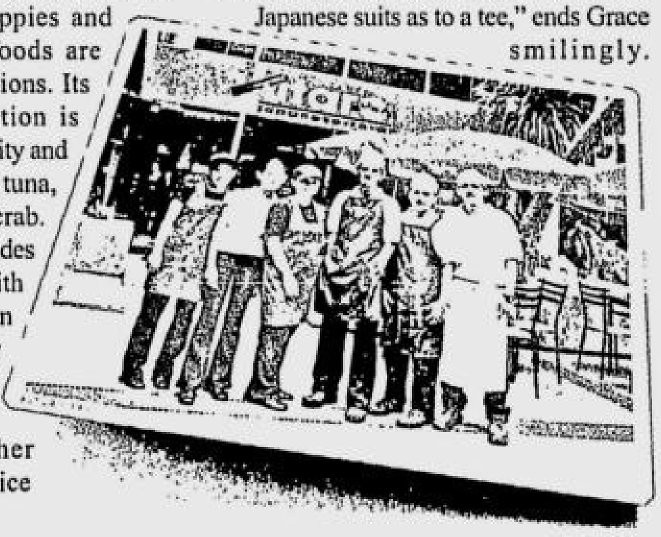
The dining atmosphere in Kitaro is very casual and relaxed, catering to families, barkadas, yuppies and office workers. The foods are served in generous portions. Its delightful menu selection is synonymous to high-quality and fresh catch like salmon, tuna, shrimp, sea urchin and crab. The a la carte menu includes chicken teriyaki made with excellent meat and an intense sauce slightly sweetened; beef yakiniku, sukiyaki and shrimp tempura. Other specialties are temaki, rice toppings and ramen.

"Japanese food is a favored cuisine because it is balanced, flavorful and healthy," says Grace. However, all owners of Kitaro agree that it is not only excellent food and reasonable prices that make up Kitaro. "To operate successfully, we have to embrace friendly, quick and efficient service at all times", adds Grace.

Early this year, Kitaro has also explored stand alone locations. These food stops are small in size but are strategically located like PETRON in EDSA cor Dasma Village, office buildings like in Perea and Emerald. Accessibility to its many customers will no longer be a problem with these stand alone outlets.

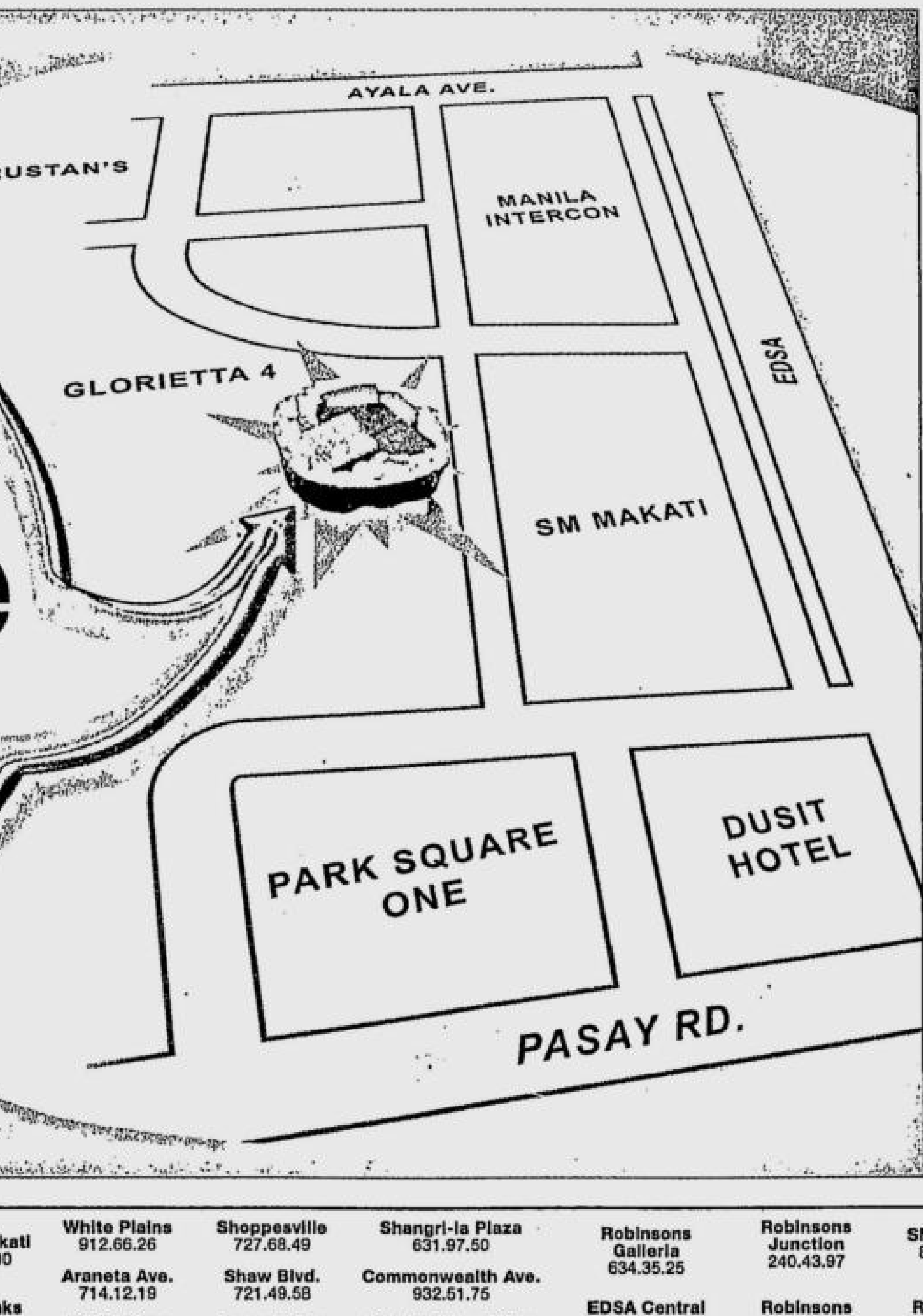
This August, Kitaro is offering the High On Five promo. A way of saying thank you to its loyal customers. The promo includes free Fruity Tea for every Bento and Rice Toppings order and price discounts on selected menus.

"We never dreamed that this venture will become big in just five years. It's been a tough ride for all of us. But turning Japanese suits as to a tee," ends Grace smilingly.



Kitaro sushi japanese-to-go

KITARO'S 27th branch is right here at Glorietta 4



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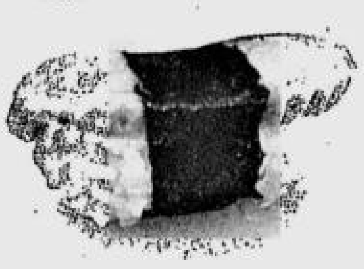

Congratulations

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the Fastest Growing

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Today...

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Kitaro sushi japanese-to-go

BRANCHES

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Petron Edsa	886.41.70
Vito Cruz Ext.	899.89.17
Maria Orosa	528.44.27
Perea Makati	892.55.00
Riverbanks Marikina	998.52.55
White Plains	912.66.26
Araneta Ave.	714.12.19
RCBC Plaza	889.88.00
Shoppesville	727.68.49
Shaw Blvd.	721.49.58
Emerald Ave.	633.02.00
Shangri-la Plaza	631.97.50
Commonwealth Ave.	932.51.75
Star Mall Las Piñas	871.36.64
Robinsons Galleria	634.35.25
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Get them both!

New SMART 2-in-1 STAR CALLER ringtunes

Get twice the fun!

Imagine Ara & Aubrey answering calls for you. Your two sexy babes will always be ready to greet your callers first before you even say hello. It's double the fun in just one ringtune! Your friends will surely give you a call again and again. It's another hot hit from SMART!

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Double Time	Troy Montero & John Ferriols	100795
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Busted	Troy Montero & John Ferriols	100798
Masseuse	Troy Montero & John Ferriols	100799
Finished	Aubrey Miles & Ara Mina	100800
Sharing	Aubrey Miles & Ara Mina	100801
Jealous	Aubrey Miles & Ara Mina	100802
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TO GET 2-IN-1 CALLER RINGTUNE

RING ADD 100800

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286

Send to **286**

[illegible]	[illegible]
Stars	STARS
Movie Lines	MOVIES
Spoofs	SPOOFS
OPM	OPM
OPM Bands	OPMBANDS
Sound Effects	SFX
Jokes	JOKES

To get the following services:	Key in and send to 286
List of newest ringtunes & other categories	WHATSNEW
Hottest Pick of the Week	HOTPICKS
Know Title and Ring ID of a Friend's Ringtune	RING LIST <friend's cellphone number> (Ex. RING LIST 09208140940)
Help (for more info on new features)	HELP

VIA IVR (INTERACTIVE VOICE RECORDING)	Call **1513** and follow the voice instructions.
VIA WAP	Click on ***Amazing Stuff*** link from SMART wapsite then select ***Caller Ringtunes***
VIA WEB	Listen B4 U Download! Log on to ***http://ring.smart.com.ph/smart***

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Give a RINGTUNE to your buddy.
Just text **RING GIFT <Ring ID><friend's cellphone #> to 286**
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*Giftune will be charged to sender

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For questions, comments or concerns, you may call SMART Hotline at 888-1111, send a text message to 888 (P1.00 per mesage sent in excess of the FREE TEXT allocation), e-mail us at customercare@smart.com.ph, or visit the SMART Wireless Center nearest you.

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JOB Market

SUNDAY, AUGUST 8, 2004
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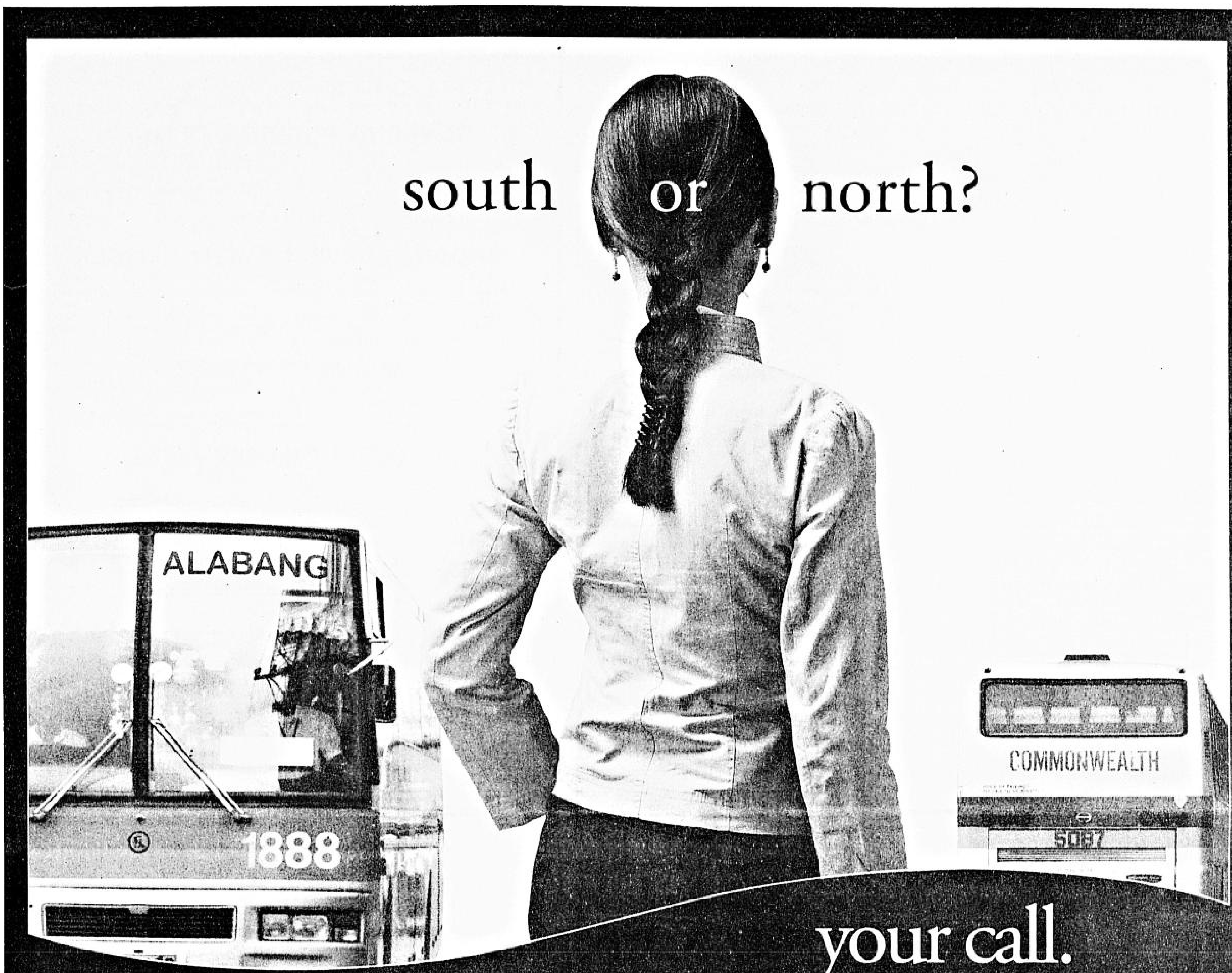

your call.

Are your chances of getting a job in the Metro dwindling? The contact centers in Commonwealth in the north and Alabang down south, are now extending your prospects. Wherever you are in the city, the world's largest contact center continues to widen the opportunities.

At Convergys, we not only increase your chances but also empower you by your choice.

Be part of the Convergys experience and apply for the following positions:

- **TECHNICAL CUSTOMER CARE REPRESENTATIVES**
- **CUSTOMER CARE REPRESENTATIVES**

Applicants who are interested to be part of our Technical Customer Care Team are encouraged to visit us at:

Ortigas Office:
- 24th floor, Robinsons Equitable Tower, #4 ADB Avenue corner Poveda Street, Ortigas Center.

Applicants who are interested to be part of our General Customer Care Team are encouraged to visit us at the following centers:

Makati Office:
- 7th floor, Tower 2, The Enterprise Center, 6766 Ayala Avenue, Makati City 1200

Alabang Office:
- Blk 44 Northgate Cyberzone Alabang, Muntinlupa City
- 7th floor, Insular Life Corporate Office, Corporate Avenue corner Commerce Avenue, Filinvest Corporate City, Alabang 1781, Muntinlupa City

Cebu Office:
- Ramon Aboitiz Foundation, Inc. (RAFI), 35 Lopez Jaena Street, Cebu City

Commonwealth Office:
- Jocfer Building Commonwealth Avenue Diliman, Quezon City
(starting September 1, 2004)

For inquiries regarding application for agents & other positions, please call the Recruitment Hotline at (632) 857-7760, Monday to Friday from 8am to 9pm.

Those who are interested for non-representative positions (Team Leaders, Operations Managers, Senior Operations Manager, HR and IT) are advised to send their resume with a cover letter to philippinesrecruitment@convergys.com.
Please refrain from sending attachments - the body of the email must be the resume itself.

Watch out for our Recruitment Team in Davao from August 6 to 13, 2004

**CBDC Davao, 5th Floor, Mintrade Building, Monteverde Street corner
Sales Street, Davao City**

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THE BEST IN HOSPITALITY SERVICES TRAINING!

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Basic Courses: (30 hours)
Schedule: Monday - Friday / 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

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Galley Steward Course

Advance Courses: (42 hours)
Schedule: Monday - Friday / 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

Restaurant Service Training
Housekeeping Service Training

Foreign Languages (30 hours)
Schedule: Monday to Friday
9:00 - 12:00 / 1:00 - 4:00

Nihonggo. Italian Mandarin
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For your inquiries and reservations, call us at

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CENTURY CANNING CORPORATION

We are a leading, diversified food and beverage-based enterprise that provides products of high quality and superior value to consumers here and abroad. We are currently in need of highly competent and motivated professionals who will help us in realizing our company's vision and mission.

TRADE MARKETING ASSISTANT (for Davao)

Ideal candidate shall report directly to the Trade Marketing Manager and will be responsible for the trade marketing activities such as evaluation and implementation of promotional activities. Overseeing the deployment of marketing materials and coordination with the merchandising point persons of Mindanao area. We are looking for a male or female candidate between 24-32 years old, college graduate of any business course, must have a good command of oral and written communication, can speak and write in Visayan dialect and must be computer literate. Experience in trade marketing activities is an advantage.

He must consistently set high quality standards at work, has excellent negotiation skills, exhibits strong interpersonal skills and highly flexible.

SR. VAN SALESMAN (for Davao)

Reports directly to the District Sales Manager. Handles and manages a group of tertiary accounts in a given area and works under general supervision. Relies on instructions and pre-established guidelines to perform the functions of the job. With at least 1-2 years route selling experience. Male, 25-30 years old, with a Bachelor's degree and must be computer literate. Must have a good command or oral and written communication, licensed to drive a van / truck. Able to relate to different types of people and to all levels in the organization. Consistently sets high quality standards at work, highly flexible and self-motivated.

Interested candidates may send or handcarry their updated resumé with contact number, recent (2x2) photo, photocopy of Official Transcript of Records to:

DAVAO STAR DISTRIBUTORS, INC.
Ruby St. RGE Village, Agdao, Davao City
on or before August 18, 2004

URGENTLY NEEDED:

PRODUCTION SUPERVISOR
- can handle and motivate workers

ACCOUNTANT
- manages all aspect of acctg.
- w/ at least 2 years experience
- must be computer literate
- proficiency in working w/ accounting integrated software a plus

Apply personally or send resumé to our corporate office:

#9 Capricorn St., Carmel V Subd.
Banlat, T. Sora Quezon City
or call 939-6358 / 9396370/58

CW MKTG. & DEV'T. CORP.

Is in need of an **Administrative Assistant**

- Female, must not be over 30 years old
- Must know basic Mandarin & Fookien
- Must be fluent in English
- Must be computer literate
- Can work with minimal supervision
- Must be able to drive
- Fresh Graduates can apply
- Must be able to start immediately

Qualified applicants may send their resumé at #1 Doña Julia Vargas Ave. cor. Meralco Ave., Brgy. Ugong, Pasig City or email us at admin@westpoint.com.ph

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INDUSTRIAL ELECTRICIANS

- Male, not more than 35 years old
- Graduate in Industrial Electrician or Electrical Technology
- Must have at least 2 years experience as Industrial Electrician
- Must be knowledgeable in trouble shooting and repair of motor controls and Electro-pneumatics system
- Must be willing to be assigned at our plant in Canlubang, Calamba City, Laguna

Please send resumé, transcript of records and passport size photo to:

P.O. Box No. 12940, Ortigas Center Post Office, Pasig City

or apply in person at:

ACS Manufacturing Corporation
Unit 1108 Antel Global Corporate Center,
#3, Julia Vargas Ave., Ortigas Center, Pasig City

Collection agency in Makati area servicing an international bank is looking for confident, aggressive, creative and hardworking individuals to handle delinquent credit card accounts.

Applicants must have the following qualifications:

☐ Male or Female
☐ College graduate
☐ Preferably with experience in the same field

Successful candidates will have a daily allowance and the opportunity to earn commission and incentives.

Interested applicants may call 885-7617 and 885-7518 or fax their updated Resumé at 325-0450

A pharmaceutical-based, non-profit foundation engaged in generating and distributing medicine donations for indigent patients valued at P100 million annually has an urgent requirement for a:

MEDICINE DONATION OFFICER

***Job Qualifications**:*

☞ Graduate of computer science or business management

☞ With at least 3 years experience in ***Inventory Management & Control***, preferably with a leading pharmaceutical company

☞ Proficient in software applications (SQL and MS Office)

☞ With excellent communication skills, both oral and written

☞ 25 – 35 years old, male or female

Application letters with curriculum vitae can be sent to: ***exec_dir04@yahoo.com*** or mail to: ***Executive Director, P.O. Box 3185, MCPO, Makati City 1229***

HIMLAYANG PILIPINO, INCORPORATED

invites qualified applicants for the following positions:

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

- Bachelor's degree holder preferably in Business Administration or other related field
- Adept in secretarial functions for top level management
- Has above-average oral and written communication skills
- Highly computer literate
- With high level of efficiency in managing office systems and can relate with all types of people and all levels of the organization

JUNIOR AUDITOR

- Graduate of BS Accountancy
- Preferably male and single, between 22-25 yrs. old
- Has at least one (1) year experience in accounting and/or auditing work
- Highly responsible and with keen eye for details

Interested applicants are encouraged to apply personally with comprehensive resumé, transcript of records and 2x2 ID photo at:

The Human Resources Department
6th Floor, Triumph Building
1610 Quezon Avenue, Quezon City

Asia United Bank

We are looking for highly motivated, competent and dynamic persons to join our team to deliver superior banking services:

CREDIT OFFICER

- Successful candidate will be responsible for reviewing and evaluation accounts, monitoring of the sufficiency of submitted documents and approval credit accounts.
- The candidate should have at least two(2) years of exposure in the same function preferably in Consumer Loan products.
- Graduate of any four (4) year college course. Good supervisory skills. Computer literate.

ACCOUNT OFFICERS

- Successful hires will be responsible in account solicitation and selling of retail consumer finance products.
- Ideal candidates are Business/Management graduates with at least one (1) year of experience preferably selling consumer related products.
- Selling and supervisory skills. Highly proficient in oral and written communication. Computer literate.

REMEDIAL ACCOUNT OFFICER

- Successful hires will manage past due/non-performing corporate loan accounts and will be ensuring the timely actions initiated to collect and recover from past due accounts with the objective to reduce bank's non-performing loans (NPL) ratios.
- Preferred candidates are graduates of any four (4) year course with at least three to five (3-5) years of experience in collections and remedial management.
- With good negotiation and problem solving skills. Proficient in oral and written communication skills. Computer literate.

PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

- Successful candidate will be responsible in conducting market research and implementation of product programs. Also, he/she will be the point person for product development, performance monitoring and enhancements.
- Preferred candidates are graduates of Marketing, Business Administration or Communication Arts with at least one (1) year of experience. Good oral and written communication skills. Supervisory and organizational skills. Computer literate.

LOANS ASSISTANT

- Qualified candidates will be responsible in the documentation, processing of commercial and/or salary loans and custodianship of post-dated checks.
- Preferred candidates should have a working background in loan processing and documentation.
- Graduates of Accounting, Business Administration courses. Computer literate. Teamplayer.

COLLECTION SPECIALIST

- Successful candidates will monitor, collect and initiate work-out arrangement, i.e. restructuring or legal to resolve and recover past due accounts.
- Graduate of any four (4) year course with at least three to five (3-5) years of experience in collections and remedial management.
- With good negotiation and problem solving skills. Proficient in oral and written communication skills. Computer literate.

SALES/SERVICE ASSOCIATES

- Handles over the counter transactions, account opening and maintenance and contributes to the achievement of branch goals.
- Graduates of any four (4) year course, with excellent customer service skills.
- Knowledgeable in the Chinese language, an advantage.

Qualified candidates are invited to personally apply from Monday to Friday or mail/e-mail comprehensive resume and 2x2 photo to:

Asia United Bank
www. asiaunited.com.ph.
Human Resources Management Division
22/F Rm. 2209 Antel Global Corporate Center
Dona Julia Vargas Avenue, Ortigas Center, Pasig City

humanresources@asiaunited.com.ph

HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGER

(For Metro Manila & Iloilo)

- female, not over 35 years old
- graduate of Behavioral Science, Law, Psychology, or any 4-year Management course
- with extensive experience in personnel management
- must be able to build and maintain professional relations with people in the organization

Interested applicants may mail their resumé with recent photo to:

Box #KA-023-04AB
c/o Philippine Daily Inquirer
G/F Trinity Bldg., #636 T.M. Kalaw St.,
Ermita, Manila

e-mail: intra_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph
Subject: HRM

A foreign commercial bank with full operations in the Philippines is seeking to employ an individual for the position of:

Statutory and Financial Reporting Assistant

Minimum Qualification/Experience:

- College degree in Accounting
- At least two-years experience in bank statutory reporting
- Proficiency in MS Office applications specifically in Excel and MS Access

Interested persons who meet these requirements are required to apply in writing to:

HR Department
Box No. MK - 146 (SFRA)
c/o Classified Ads Department
Philippine Daily Inquirer, G/F Atrium of Makati Bldg.,
Makati Ave., Makati City

And enclose the following documents

1) Comprehensive Resumé
2) Transcript of Record
3) Telephone/Contact Number/email address, and
4) Recent passport sized photo

Selection process for applicants will include series of interview. Application closes on 20 August 2004. **Only successful applicants will be notified.**

Member – PDIC

A Multi Disciplinary firm in the Top 200 Architects in the World with ISO 9001 (Quality Management) and ISO 14001 (Environmental Management) certification for Architecture, Interior Design, Urban Planning, Master Planning, Engineering and Landscape Architecture invites individuals to fill the following positions:

SENIOR ARCHITECT/ SENIOR PROJECT COORDINATOR

- Must be Licensed Architect
- Must have at least five (5) years work experience in detailing and construction, drawing production
- Articulate in the English, and/or Arabic, Persian, Vietnamese and Chinese language will be an advantage but not required
- Must be male, 40 years old and above
- Hardworking, can work long hours and on weekends
- Honest with Integrity
- Valid passports and NBI clearance required

CADD DESIGNERS/ OPERATORS

- At least three (3) yrs. work experience
- Male/female Architecture graduate
- Articulate in the English and /or Arabic, Persian, Vietnamese and Chinese language will be an advantage but not required
- Hardworking, willing to be assigned abroad/ can work long hours and on weekends
- Valid passports and NBI clearance required
- Knowledgeable in AUTOCAD

STRUCTURAL, MECHANICAL ELECTRICAL, PLUMBING/ SANITARY ENGINEER

- Must be licensed, at least 5 yrs. work experience
- Articulate in the English, and/or Arabic, Persian, Vietnamese and Chinese language will be an advantage but not required
- Hardworking willing to be assigned abroad/ can work long hours and on weekends
- Part time/ full time hourly rate
- Valid passport and NBI clearance required

INTERIOR DESIGNER

For Hotels, luxury apartments, sports/golf clubs, restaurants, schools, hospitals, clinics, churches

- Must be a LICENSED INTERIOR DESIGNER/ ARCHITECT
- Must have at least five (5) years work experience in Interior Design
- Articulate in the English, and/or Arabic, Persian Vietnamese and Chinese language will be an advantage but not required
- Hardworking, can work long hours and on weekends
- Skilled in making and rendering Interior Perspectives
- Knowledgeable in AUTOCAD & Coreldraw programs

FRONT DESK OFFICER

- Female, College graduate, at least 25 years old and above
- Hardworking, can work long hours and on weekends
- Computer literate
- Honest with Integrity
- NBI clearance required
- Articulate in verbal communication/ can communicate very well

WRITER/RESEARCHER

- Male/Female, AB English graduate
- Articulate in the English, and/or Arabic, Persian, Vietnamese and Chinese language will be an advantage but not required
- Experience in Book publishing/book writing
- Hardworking willing to be assigned abroad/ can work long hours and on weekends
- Computer literate, MS Word, Excel, Pagemaker, Coreldraw
- Valid passport and NBI clearance required

Interested applicants may send their resumés with recent 2x2 picture, a copy of Transcript of Records and NBI Clearance to the address below indicating the position applied for:

HUMAN RESOURCES UNIT
MCPO Box 1069
Makati City 1260

NEC
NEC Telecom Software Philippines Inc.
Empowered by Innovation

Invites qualified individuals to the position of:

QUALITY ASSURANCE ENGINEER

(For Cebu Main Office Assignment)

The Work:

Provide vital assistance to the QA Section in improving NSP's software engineering processes through;

- Ø Identifying critical weaknesses in processes & propose practical solutions to address identified weak points
- Ø Active involvement in the gradual phase out of inefficient & ineffective processes
- Ø Introduction of improved processes in projects through the identification & incorporation of best practices across all project teams
- Ø Implementing & evaluating plans for quality management & process improvement

The Ideal Candidate:

- ■ Must be a graduate of any computer related course (BS Degree)
- ■ Must have at least 3 years QA experience in a software engineering company & had participated in a software development project
- ■ Knowledgeable in ISO 9000-3, CMM or CMMI
- ■ Excellent communication skills (Oral & written)
- ■ Good team player; with strong organizational, interpersonal and leadership skills

SOFTWARE DESIGN ENGINEER

(For Cebu Main Office Assignment)

The Work:

Develop distributed software components and application packages to support advanced communication systems like DSL, Cable Modems and Fiber Optic Multiplexers. Use C++ and Java to incorporate state-of-the-art technologies for software engineering including XML, CORBA, UML, Java Swing, etc. We provide systematic and intensive training in fundamental and specialized technologies. All our projects are for foreign customers, and there are regular opportunities to travel and train abroad.

The Ideal Candidate:

- ■ Must be a graduate of any computer related course (BS Degree)
- ■ Proficiency in Nihongo (Oral & written) is a plus
- ■ Must have at least 3 years experience programming in C, C++, Java or other general purpose programming languages
- ■ Has demonstrated capacity to apply software techniques to team projects
- ■ Has independent ability to acquire and apply software development technologies
- ■ Good team player; with strong organizational and leadership skills

At NSP, we manage our employees' career proactively and provide opportunities for change. We have an informal and friendly work environment, with strong emphasis on continuous learning and improvement.

Qualified applicants may submit/e-mail their application letter, resume w/ 2X2 photo and photocopy of TOR, BEFORE or ON, August 13, 2004 to:

HR & ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT
Recruitment Section
NEC Telecom Software Philippines, Inc. (NSP) - Cebu Main Office
Asiatown I.T. Park, Apas, Cebu City

E-mail: jobs@ntsp.nec.co.jp
(Please indicate the position applied for in subject domain of e-mail)

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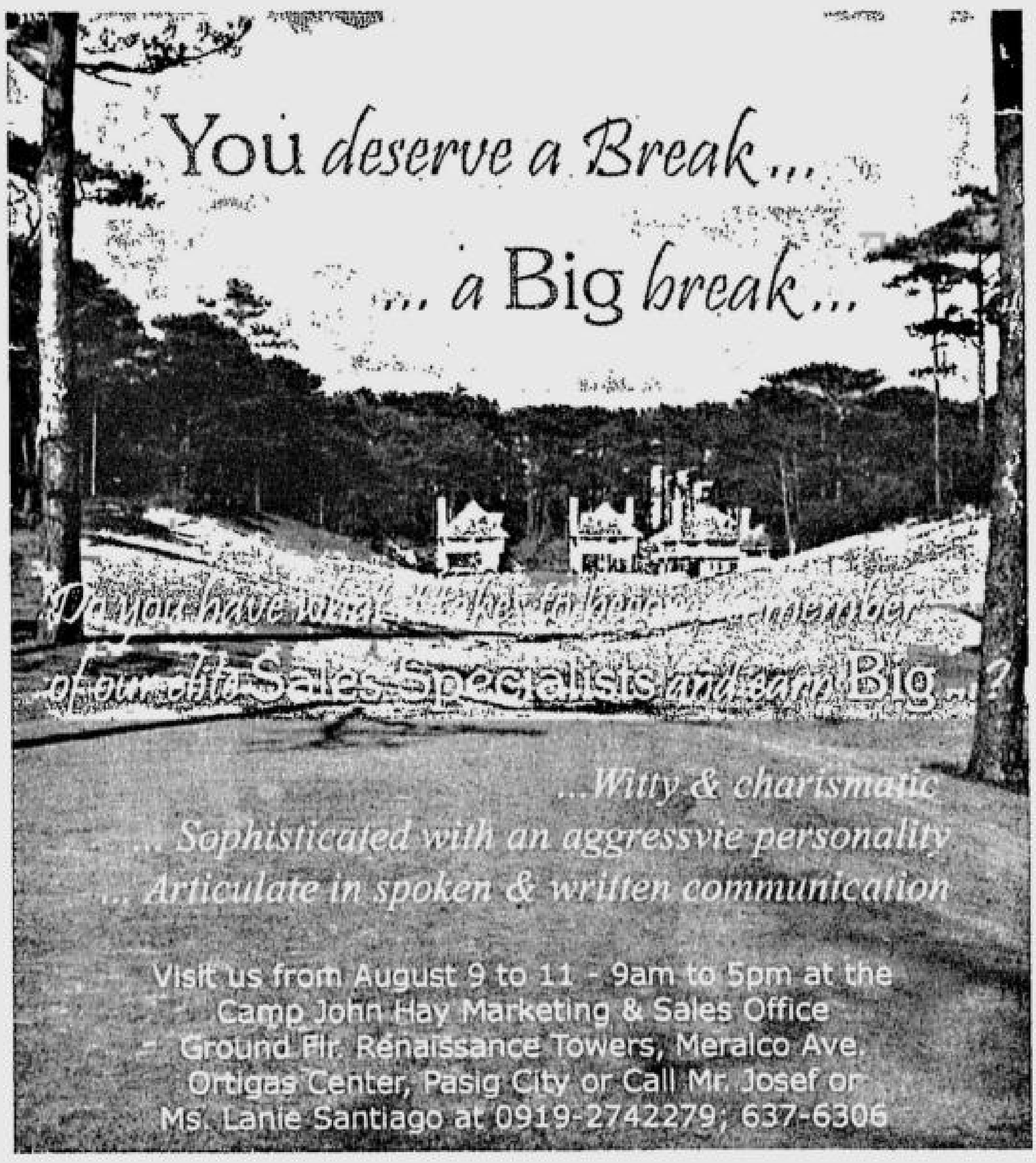

Do you have what it takes to become a member of our elite Sales Specialists and earn Big...?

...Witty & charismatic
... Sophisticated with an aggressvie personality
... Articulate in spoken & written communication

Visit us from August 9 to 11 - 9am to 5pm at the
Camp John Hay Marketing & Sales Office
Ground Flr. Renaissance Towers, Meralco Ave.
Ortigas Center, Pasig City or Call Mr. Josef or
Ms. Lanie Santiago at 0919-2742279; 637-6306

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

GOVERNANCE OFFICER / FINANCIAL ANALYST

JOB RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Governance Officer – Assist the CFO and the Excom in ensuring that the group's governance documents are complete and up-to-date in every respect.
- Financial Analyst – Prepare, under the direction of the CFO and/or CEO, regular financial reports as well as special reports and projects that may be required by senior management, Excom or the Board.
- Investor Relations – Coordinate Excom and Board meetings; liaise with the representatives or key persons of current and prospective investors groups; manage requests for information from all external parties.

JOB REQUIREMENTS:

- Preferably a CPA or a business administration / business management graduate.
- At least three (3) years immediate work experience either as Financial Analyst, Bank Lending Officer / Investment Banking Associate, Corporate Governance Staff or Auditor (Internal or External).

ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT

JOB RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Ensure proper recording of telecom costs, fixed assets and related depreciation costs.
- Monitor aging of accounts receivable.
- Prepare bank reconciliation statements.
- Prepare weekly cash forecasts and telegraphic / wire fund transfers.
- Ensure compliance with statutory requirements particularly BIR and PEZA.

JOB REQUIREMENTS:

- Accounting Graduate.
- At least three (3) experience in handling general accounting and fund management.
- Hands-on experience on Great Plains is an advantage.

Interested parties may send their resumes via fax at Fax #(02) 9118854.
You can also email us at yol_gonzales@yahoo.com.

A Well Established Financial Services Firm

is need of the following

Regional Sales Manager / Corporate and Institutional Account Managers / Account Officers
*To recruit, train and manage sales executives (Brokers, Area Managers, Junior Account Officers, Sales Associates) to sell financial plans to individual, group and specialized market niches, using innovative and creative marketing strategies.

Brokers/General Agents / Area Managers
*To recruit, train and manage a team to sell financial services to special accounts.
*To operate an independent sales organization to sell financial packages directly to individual, group and special accounts like OFWs, corporate and other markets.

We offer a very attractive package for those who qualify:
You'll have the best compensation in the industry with a fixed salary, variable income from overrides, direct commissions, bonuses, other benefits and perks.

You must have an existing group of sales associates ready to join the team. Preferably from car, pharmaceutical, pre-need, bank, real estate, insurance firms and other finance related industries. Sales executives from other groups involved in direct sales / multi-level organizations are also welcome. Competent in orchestrating sales calls and monitoring production reports. Experienced in organizing and leading sales agents toward group profitability.

Join us for Immediate Hiring!

Email resume (in MS Word without photos) to
madyaas_peak@yahoo.com
executivesearch@netexecutive.com &/or mjcfinancial04@yahoo.com
OR Fax to 813-1222 / Mail to BOX CODE MN-2058
C/O Classified Ads Division, Phil. Daily Inquirer, Chino Roces Ave. cor. Yague & Mascardo St.

MEGA EXCHANGE

SALES ASSOCIATE

- ☐ Female/Single/below 25 years old
- ☐ At least 2nd year College
- ☐ Must be proficient in English
- ☐ Enthusiastic and of good character
- ☐ Pleasing personality

Apply personally (3:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.; Monday-Thursday) at 4th Floor, CyberZone, SM Megamall Building B, Mandaluyong City. Tel. No. 6332011 Look for Evelyn

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WANTED:

160 Security Guards Male & Female Posting at Pagcor Casinos in Metro Manila

- ➢ At least 2nd year college (72 units)
- ➢ 5'6" in height for Security Guard
- ➢ 5'3" in height for Lady Guard
- ➢ With valid Security Guard License

Apply at:
Royal Security Agency Inc.
8130 Diovic Bldg., Dr. A. Santos Avenue,
(former Sucat Road) San Dionisio,
Parañaque City (near Olivarez Gen. Hosp.)
Tel. No. 826-3892/0920-9138311

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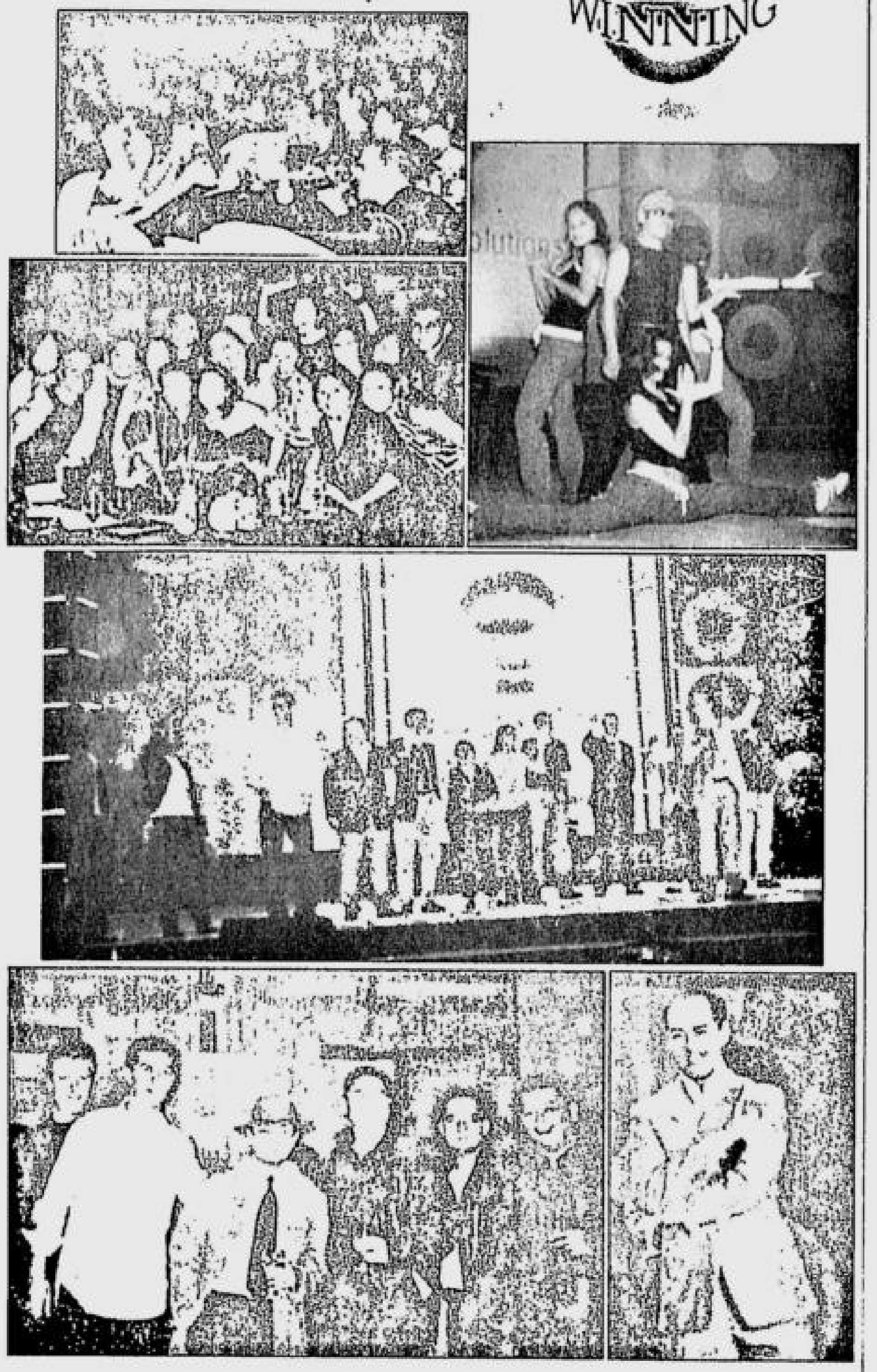
TOWN HALL MEETING 07-25-04

WINNING



One team... One goal... WINNING!!!

This certainly was the mantra of every Ambergris Agent during the Ambergris Vision-Mission-Values Launch held at Le Pavillon last July 25. Ambergris' Town Hall Party aptly created the mood wherein everybody came dressed to the nines in their most sophisticated and most creative costumes lifted from a movie montage of Hollywood secret agent movies. Celebrating "WINNING" was one of the main highlights of the evening. Also spotted at the crime scene were Ambergris' bigwigs headed by Javy Infante, Tim Lavin and Jack Tuason, clients and friends. Special guests include Passage and the Whiplash Dancers.

in cooperation with:

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A Well-Established, Leading Supplier of High Quality Electrical, Industrial & Lighting Products is Looking for Dynamic, Career-Oriented Individuals for Immediate Hiring

SALES MANAGERS (5)

Responsibilities:
Manage and supervise a sales team to meet its monthly group sales target • Formulate sales and marketing strategies and programs to expand market and develop new customers • Develop and implement strategic interventions to assist underachieving sales staff to achieve their individual monthly sales target • Train and motivate sales staff to achieve total teamwork and focus on assigned major products

Requirements:
Male/Female, not more than 35 years old, Engineering, Business, Marketing, Communications Graduate • At least 5 years experience with proven track record of success with sales and account management • Excellent oral and written communication skills in Filipino and English (knowledge of Chinese an advantage but not required) • Knowledge in products like lighting or electrical or ventilation products an advantage.

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANTS (3)

Responsibilities:
Assist the Manager in research and analysis, project planning and its implementation • Organize and coordinate daily and weekly operation's schedules and activities • Handle business correspondence, reports, presentation and other administrative work

Requirements:
Male/Female, not more than 30 years old, Marketing, Communication, Journalism Graduate • Must have EXCELLENT oral and written English skills (knowledge of Fukien or Mandarin an advantage but not required) • Must be able to work with minimum supervision, communicate clearly and concisely, work with people from various levels of management • Knowledge in MS Office programs (Word, Excel, PowerPoint) and use of internet and e-mail.

Interested applicants are invited to apply personally with comprehensive resumé TOR, employment certificates, 2x2 colored photo, or e-mail to hrd@zenithinternational.ph or zgchrd@vasia.com

LeMarBen Classic Condominium
676 Florentino Torres Street corner Soler, Sta. Cruz, Manila (Back of National Bookstore)
Tel. 733-8355 to 56 Look for Mr. Angelo Villanueva / Ms. May Anne Gutierrez

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Announcing Phoenix One & NIIT's

Java and Oracle

GLOBAL TECH SCHOLARSHIPS 2004

In the April 2004 Report of US-based Dice Inc., leading provider of online recruiting services, the two most sought-after skills by employers are JAVA and ORACLE. Whether you are a professional seeking a career change, or a technologist seeking career advancement, these are clearly the skills you need to succeed in the IT industry today.

NIIT, the world leader in IT Education & Training and an Oracle Workforce Development Partner, in cooperation with Phoenix One, presents programs on Java and Oracle technologies:

- **Oracle 9i Database Administrator**
- **ELITE Enterprise Solutions Developer on Java Technologies**

Acquire these high value skills and be on your way to a successful IT career!

This August, NIIT and Phoenix One are offering scholarships on the Oracle and Java training programs. 15% to 100% scholarships will be given to qualified candidates who will pass a written exam and interview.

Scholarship applications will be accepted until Aug. 20, 2004. Apply now!

"The ELITE training program combines theory with supervised professional practice. Because of this unique approach, I'm confident that I will be able to meet the demands of the real IT workplace."

- Christine C. Nuval
ELITE ESD Scholar

NIIT
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MAKATI : 830-3000
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Paseo de Roxas cor. Perea St.
Legaspi Village, Makati City

ORTIGAS : 689-1189
G/F Greenrich Mansion
Lourdes St. cor. Pearl Drive
Ortigas Center, Pasig City

ALABANG : 775-7001
2/F Doña Marta Building
Alabang-Zapote Road
Alabang, Muntinlupa City

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A foreign commercial bank with full operations in the Philippines is seeking to employ an individual for the position of:

Chief FX Dealer - Assistant Vice President

Minimum Qualification/Experience:

- Business-related tertiary qualification (college degree) with a strong foundation in Finance, Economics or BS Math
- At least five-years experience in Foreign Exchange and Money Market in a commercial bank, with a proven record in generating profitable revenue streams
- BAP Certified Treasury Professional
- Proven analytical ability with strong problem solving skills and initiative
- Proven record of making money/revenue generation
- Must be a team player, able to work well with others and focus on achieving organizational/divisional goals and targets
- Excellent communication skills, both verbal and written
- Computer literate, desirably in MS Office environment

Interested persons who meet these requirements are required to apply in writing to:

HR Department
Box No. MK - 146, c/o Classified Ads Dept.
Philippine Daily Inquirer, G/F Atrium of Makati Bldg.,
Makati Ave., Makati City

And enclose the following documents

1) Comprehensive Resumé
2) Transcript of Record
3) Telephone/Contact Number/email address, and
4) Recent passport sized photo
5) Copy of completion of the Treasury Certification Program

Selection process for applicants will include series of interview. Application closes on 14 August 2004. **Only successful applicants will be notified.**

Member – PDIC

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Submit or email an application letter, resumé and references to:

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Cebu Daily News
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Escario St., Cebu City
search@inquirerpublications.ph/aoasan@fep.ph/rbalingit@fep.ph

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Now is your chance to fly!
Join us in this 3-day seminar workshop...

Date: August 20, 21, 22, 2004
Time: 8:00 am – 6:00 pm
Venue: WINGS CAREER CENTER
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Sen Gil Puyat Ave., Makati City

For Inquiries
Please call (02) 889-4647
and look for Mr. Russell
or Visit us at
WINGS CAREER CENTER
We are not a recruitment agency.

Women In Global Synergy

**JAPAN INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AGENCY
PHILIPPINE OFFICE**

The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) which is an active development partner of the Philippine Government is looking for dynamic and competent staff with high degree of initiative to join its organization:

PROGRAM ASSISTANT level positions in:

1. **Administration Section**
2. **Planning & Coordination Section**
3. **Accounting and Procurement Section**

The staff will be working with Japanese and Filipino counterparts and shall be responsible for administrative and logistic support, as well as, coordinating with government offices or related agencies in the implementation of programs.

The staff may also be assigned to other sections within the office, depending on his/her performance.

Qualifications:

- Male/Female, 23-30 years old
- Graduate of a four-year university course
- With at least three-years working experience in a related field
- Excellent oral and written communications skills
- Proficient in computer skills (Excel, Word, Powerpoint &/or Filemaker)
- Good interpersonal skills, adaptable and willing to learn

The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) is a government agency responsible for implementing the technical cooperation programs of Japan's Official Development Assistance (ODA). For more information, refer to JICA's homepage: http://www.jica.go.jp/philippine/index.html.

The recruitment will be handled by the Takezawa Technology Transfer & Industrial Consultancy, Inc (TTT-ICI). All applicants must submit their Curriculum Vitae on or before August 20, 2004 to TTT-ICI at Unit-E Lower Ground Floor, Westgate Tower, Investment Drive, Madrigal Business Park, Ayala Alabang, Muntinlupa City or e-mail to **ginalim@axti.com** **(no attachment)** or fax to 772-1889

(Only shortlisted candidates will be notified.)

Success doesn't come to you… you go to it!!!

If you have excellent English communication skills
Strong personality
Can handle pressure
Then YOU can be a Telephone Sales Representative.

CALL 02-5360795 for an immediate interview.
Monday-Friday, 9 am – 4 pm

We are also looking for Quality Assurance Associates
Applicants must have previous work experience as a QA Associate
in an outbound call center.

TELE-CENTER
A WHOLLY OWNED SUBSIDIARY OF
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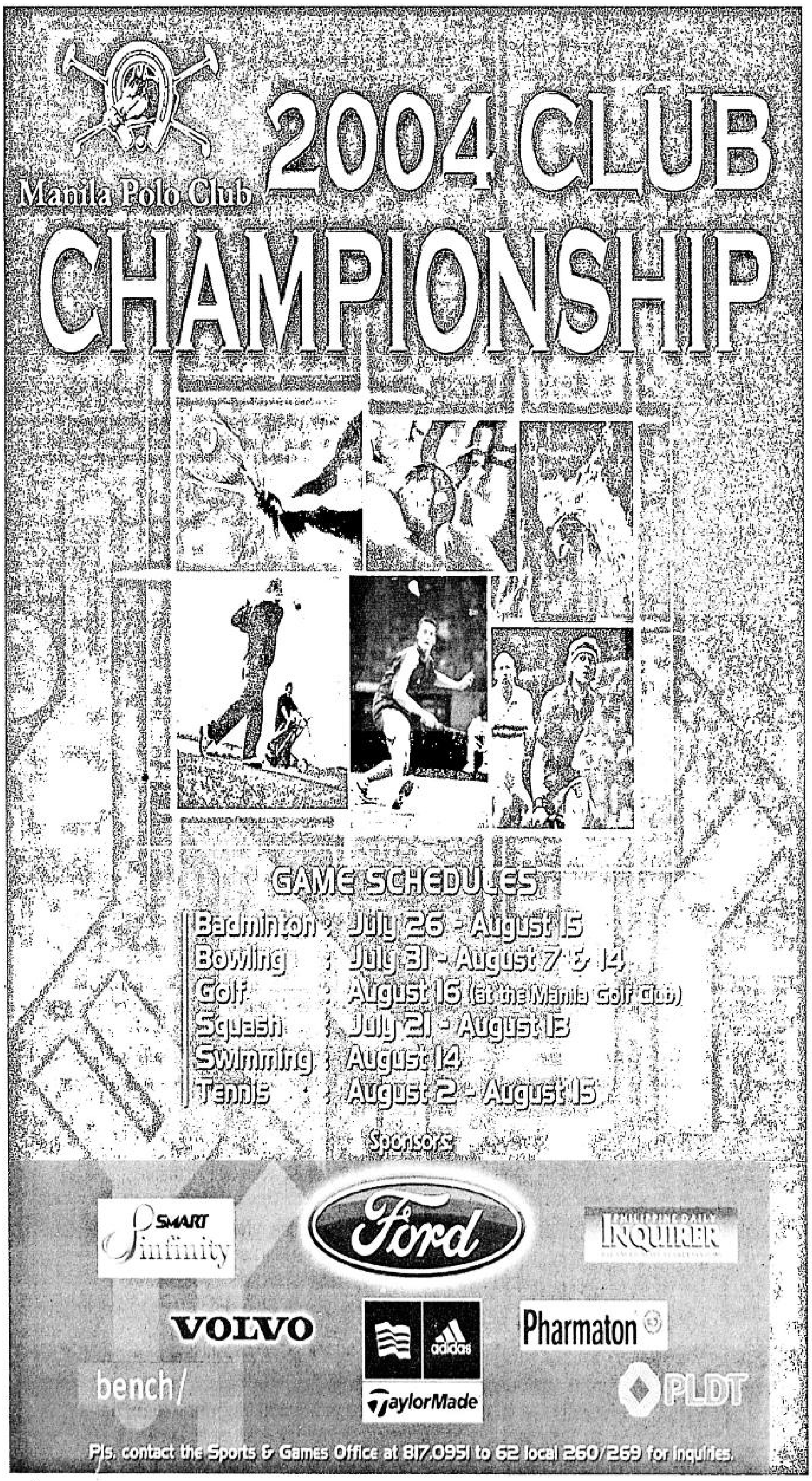
5th Level SM City Manila
Arroceros St. corner San Marcelino St., Ermita, Manila



GAME SCHEDULES
Badminton : July 26 - August 15
Bowling : July 31 - August 7 & 14
Golf : August 16 (at the Manila Golf Club)
Squash : July 21 - August 13
Swimming : August 14
Tennis : August 2 - August 15

Pls. contact the Sports & Games Office at 817.0951 to 62 local 260/269 for inquiries.

CRS
CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES

Catholic Relief Services, the overseas relief and development agency of the United States Catholic Conference of Bishops (CRS-USCCB), Philippine Program is looking for qualified staff for its Regional Learning Center (RLC). RLC provides capacity building support for institutions through the use organizational learning systems to inform and customize training and technical assistance in the field of microfinance.

We therefore need highly qualified individuals for the following contractual positions:

KNOWLEDGE MANAGER

The Knowledge Manager (KM) leads other staff and teams of RLC and client institutions in a collaborative effort to develop policies, procedures, and systems to strengthen client institutional capacities to better serve their own microfinance clients.

Qualifications

- Degree in Business Administration, Development Management, Knowledge Management, Business, Information Communications and Technology, or related fields. A master's degree is a plus.
- At least five years experience in implementation of knowledge management or information systems with capacity development institutions, including three years in a leadership role, or the equivalent combination of education and experience.
- Proven experience with intranet/internet web-based technologies, web publishing, authoring tools/graphics and data repository/data management tools.
- Excellent English communication and presentation skills (verbal and written)
- Ability to multi-task and work within a dynamic, flexible work environment
- Self motivated with a high degree of initiative, requiring minimal supervision
- Excellent creative problem solving skills; Demonstrated ability to interface with all levels of management (domestically and internationally) as well as a good understanding of the implications of diversity in the global workplace

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

The position provides overall financial and administrative services, and coordinates activities for RLC.

Qualifications

- Degree in Business Administration, Accountancy, or other related courses. CPA a plus.
- At least three years experience in the field of finance and administrative work. Must have strong background in finance and/or accounting and office administration.
- Good oral and written English skills.
- Proficient in MS Word and Excel.
- Self motivated with a high degree of initiative, requiring minimal supervision
- Good interpersonal relation skills. Can deal with people at all levels in private/religious, and government institutions.

Interested individuals must submit an application letter, comprehensive resume with personal references via e-mail on or before August 14, 2004 to:

THE RLC DIRECTOR
Catholic Relief Services-USCCB, Philippine Program
Intramuros, Manila
E-mail: **hr-admin@crs-org.ph**

(Only qualified applicants will be notified.)

WANTED IMMEDIATELY

SECRETARY

- Female/single 22 to 30 years old.
- Must be graduate of any four (4) years course with pleasing personality
- Fluent in oral & written (Business Correspondence), computer literate.
- Experience is a must

Please apply in person and bring resumé and transcript of records to:

**PIZAÑA FARM CORPORATION
#5 Esteban Abada St.,
Katipunan Ave., Q.C. 920-26-73**

FOR IMMEDIATE EMPLOYMENT

LICENSED CIVIL ENGINEER

- with 3 years experience
- knowledge in AUTOCAD is a must
- with knowledge in cut and fill computation

Please apply at:
Rm. 504 State Condominium I
Salcedo St., Legaspi Village, Makati

PETROTRADE PHILIPPINES, INC.
Member: The HERMA Group

We are a wholly owned Filipino corporation engaged in hauling of petroleum products for leaders in the oil industry. To complement our concurrent manpower requirement, we are in need of the following:

- **MASTER**

Licensed 2nd Mate with a minimum of 2 years experience in barge or tanker vessel

- **CHIEF ENGINEER**

4th Engineer Licensed with at least 2 years experience in barge or tanker vessel

We offer competitive salary/benefit package and progressive/stable career with the company.

(ALL POSITIONS ARE FOR LOCAL EMPLOYMENT)

Please apply at
Personnel Department
Herma Bldg. 94 Scout Rallos St.
Kamuning, Q.C
Tel No. 922 3421 • Fax No. 929 4687

WANTED

1. **Cashier/Billing & Collection Clerk**
2. **Payroll & Licensing Clerk**
   - A graduate of BS Accounting;
   - Proficient in computer & microsoft excel; and
   - Preferably with bookkeeping, collection experience.
3. **Marketing Support/Claims Specialist**
   - A graduate of business administration, marketing or related field;
   - Can write well in English or Filipino;
   - Willing to go on fieldwork in rural areas;
   - Proficient in computer and Microsoft office software; and
   - Preferably with advertising, marketing and/or training experience
4. **Regional Sales Supervisor for Eastern Visayas, Southeastern Mindanao**
   - A graduate of any 4 year college course;
   - At least 2 years supervisory experience in sales, preferably in pre-need, insurance or direct selling;
   - Proficient with computer and Microsoft office software; and
   - A resident of the region and is willing to travel in rural areas; and
   - Willing to be compensated on commission basis.

Interested applicants should submit the following documents:

1) Letter of application
2) Bio data with recent 2x2 colored ID picture
3) Photocopy of Transcript of Records
4) NBI clearance
5) Medical certificate of good physical health

Kindly mail these documents to the following address on or before August 30, 2004. Please remember that only those shortlisted will be called for an interview.

THE HRD OFFICER
P.O. Box #47
UP Post Office
Diliman, Quezon City, 1101

Elite Garments International, Inc.

owner and manufacturer of established brand names or the local and export market

22BC ENSEMBLES freeway SOLO

FASHION DESIGNER

- Will be involved in design & development of formal ladies & children's clothing
- With work experience in ladies and children's wear preferred
- Will be involved in sourcing and sampling
- Female, with courses in: Clothing Tech, Fine Arts Fashion Design & related courses

SUBMIT DESIGNS BOTH FORMAL LADIES & CHILDREN

GARMENTS LOCAL SUBCONTRACTORS

- With at least 20 Hi-speed Sewing machines
- Expert in sewing ladies' dresses, skirts, blouses, pants and jackets, Boutique quality standard

BOUTIQUE SALES PERSONNEL

- Female / Gay, College level, 19-25 yrs.old, 5'3"in height
- With experience in retail operations and excellent in customer relations
- With pleasing personality, smart and articulate,dynamic
- Willing to work long hours and be assigned anywhere

Send resume' thru fax, e-mail or mail at:
H R D
996 Pablo Ocampo Sr. St.(Vito Cruz) Malate, Manila
Tels. #525-3593/523-0957 Fax# 521-36-71
E-mail :maye @elitegarments.com

PUREGOLD PRICE CLUB

IMUS and BIÑAN ASSIGNMENT.

PERSONNEL SUPERVISORS

- female, not more than 35 years old
- with at least 1 year related working experience in the same capacity

PERSONNEL STAFF

- female, not more than 25 years old
- with experience in recruitment, timekeeping, payroll

ACCOUNTING / AUDIT STAFF

- male / female, not more than 25 years old
- preferably with related experience

TECHNICAL SUPPORT ENGINEERS

- male / female, not more than 25 years old
- knowledgeable in Windows 9X, MS Office, hardware and software installation

MAINTENANCE STAFF

- male, not more than 35 years old
- RME, with related working experience

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

- female, not more than 25 years old
- BSN graduate

VISUAL ARTISTS

- male, graduate of any four-year course
- with related working experience in a retail industry

INTERNAL SECURITIES

- female, not more than 35 years old
- related working experience in retail stores is a must

BUTCHERS

- male, at least High School graduate
- with related working experience

HEAD OFFICE ASSIGNMENT

PROGRAMMERS

- male / female, graduate of related course
- knowledgeable in AS 400 and RPG

SR. ACCOUNTANTS

- male / female, not more than 35 years old
- preferably CPA, with related working experience

ACCOUNTING / AUDIT STAFF

- male / female Accounting graduate
- with related working experience

Interested applicants are requested to mail their resumé with 2x2 ID picture and credentials to:

THE PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT
PUREGOLD PRICE CLUB, INC.
Tabacalera Bldg., 900 Romualdez St., Ermita, Manila

Walk-in applicants will not be entertained

Don't just be a job seeker, be a winner!
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Get a chance to win a MOTOROLA E398 mobile phone, the first surround sound phone in the Philippines equipped with 3D Stereo Speakers, MP3 Player, Transflash Memory Card, Integrated Camera and Bluetooth® Wireless Technology Connectivity, in the monthly draws.

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Log on to www.jobmarketonline.com and create a JobMarket Online account. Upload your resumé and receive a raffle entry. Invite your friends to join. The more friends who submit their resumés, the more raffle entries you get, the more chances of winning!

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MARKETING INSTITUTE OF THE PHILIPPINES

The Education and Training Arm of
PHILIPPINE MARKETING ASSOCIATION
presents a seminar on

Mastering the basics of MARKETING A 2 Z

August 17, 18 and 20, 2004
(Tue, Wed & Fri, 1:00 to 6:00 p.m.)
ACCEED - AIM Conference Center, Makati City

Designed for people who are performing a marketing management function but whose academic preparation may not be marketing. They can be front-line, mid-and upper-level managers in brand management, sales, customer relations, advertising, pro-motions, media and public relations.

Course Fee:
Non-PMA Member **P 6,000.**
PMA Member - - **P 5,500.**

For inquiries, please call the Philippine Marketing Association Secretariat c/o Ms. Lydia Marinas
Tels: 634-5722; 634-4890 / Fax 636-1451
E-mail: pma@philonline.com or
lydiamm@edsamail.com.ph

SIGN UP NOW. Special Rate of **P5,500.** per participant can be availed upon registration on or before August 8, 2004.

THE AUTHORITY FOR INFO-COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY INDUSTRY (AiTI) seeks the services of a highly motivated and experienced professional with a unique blend of experience in submarine cable telecommunications, including knowledge and practice of industrial issues, strong relationships with players (both suppliers and purchasers) in the submarine cable industry. He or she should also possess a combination of experience in technical matters, diplomacy and negotiating skills and have an extensive knowledge of all technical aspects of submarine cable systems, including the latest technologies.

AiTi is an international corporate body who exercises licensing and regulatory functions over telecommunication systems and services and also manages frequency spectrum issues.

Position : **PROJECT DIRECTOR, SUBMARINE CABLE NETWORKS REGULATORY AND TECHNOLOGY GROUP**

Responsibilities:

As Project Director, he or she shall be responsible for the Project Team and will work closely with the Management Team in a number of areas but not limited to the following:

a) Planning a network configuration for a new Submarine Cable system based on technical, practical and economical considerations.
b) Studying the availability of onward connectivity and the pricing competitiveness for onward connectivity offered by prospective carrier partner / partners.
c) Discussions and negotiations with prospective carrier partner / partners.
d) Drafting a Memorandum of Understanding to be signed by parties concerned.
e) Developing & compiling Tender Specifications for a new Submarine Cable system.
f) Issuance of Tender and the evaluation of Tender.
g) Execution of the Supply Contract & supervision of the implementation of the Project.

Qualifications/Requirements:

- Bachelor Degree in Electronics, Electrical or Communications Engineering from a recognised University
- A minimum of five (5) years working experience in the Submarine Cable business
- Excellent command of both spoken and written English and able to interact and communicate with individuals at all levels of organisation
- Good knowledge of the use of computer software applications in work processing, spreadsheets, database and presentation software
- Ability to maintain the highest level of confidentiality
- Ability to multi-task
- Highly motivated, committed, confident with excellent inter-personal skills
- Generally pleasant demeanor and respectful attitude

Terms and Conditions

1. The successful candidate will be offered a three (3) year employment contract with appropriate benefits and entitlement. This offer will also be subject to a three (3) month probation period.
2. Only successful applicants will be invited for an interview at their own expense.

Interested applicants should submit their application with a detailed resumé (stating your expected salary) and a non-returnable recent passport size photograph not later than Friday, 27th August 2004 to:

THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE
Authority for Info-communications Technology Industry (AiTi)
Email: recruit@aiti.gov.bn
Website: www.aiti.gov.bn

* *ONLY SHORTLISTED CANDIDATES WILL BE NOTIFIED AND CALLED FOR INTERVIEW*

Rx MEDICard

MEDICard PHILS INC.

One of the country's leading HMO and the first HMO to be awarded ISO 9002 is looking for assertive, dynamic and energetic individuals to fill up the following vacancies:

DIRECT ACCOUNTS ASSISTANT SUPERVISOR

Female, 24 - 28 years old, preferably a graduate of medical related course or Mass Communication; with pleasing personality and above average communication skills; at least 2 years experience in Account Management.

MARKETING ASSISTANTS

Male/Female, not more than 26 years old, preferably graduate of marketing, advertising or mass communication; with above average communication skills, must be proficient in Adobe photoshop & In Design.

COMPANY NURSES

Male / Female, Must be registered; With pleasing personality & above-average communication skills. No work/training experience required.

MEDICAL-RELATED COURSE GRADUATES

With pleasing personality; able to relate with all levels of the organization; above-average communication skills; computer literate.

HUMAN RESOURCES ASSISTANT

Female, 22-26 years old, knowledgeable in all facets of Human Resources, With pleasing personality and above average communication skills.

Qualified and interested applicants are requested to apply personally. Please bring comprehensive resume, 2x2 photo and transcript of records at:

Human Resources Department
MEDICard Philippines, Inc.
8/F The World Centre Bldg.
#330 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City
Email: rcubero@medicardphils.com

We are inviting aggressive and mature individuals to fill up vacant position as continue our commitment in giving the best quality of service to our client

ACCOUNTING CLERK

* BS Accounting Graduate
* Male or Female 22 to 28 years old
* Computer Literate
* Have at least 1 year work experience
* Trustworthy, mature responsible outlook and open to new ideas

INTERESTED APPLICANTS may send or submit personally their updated resumé with recent ID picture, NBI clearance, photocopy of transcript of records and certificate of previous employment to:

ARCHITECKS
metal systems inc.
533 Commonwealth Avenue, Quezon City
Tel. No. 931-2602 / 951-2290 Fax No. 931-1459
e-mail add.: sales@architecks.com.ph

Do you want to be identified with a large and well-respected conglomerate?
Do you want to be a part of a team of young & aggressive professionals in charting the direction of a stable and fast-growing Bank?
If you answer in the affirmative, read on.

RobinsonsBank
A Savings Bank

A member of the highly diversified conglomerate, JG Summit Holdings Corp., **Robinsons Bank** *is in urgent need of young professionals to fit the following key positions:*

Executive Secretary
- ✓ Between 23 – 25 years old
- ✓ Graduate of any Business related course
- ✓ With at least 2 yrs. experience
- ✓ With good administrative & office mgn't. skills
- ✓ With good interpersonal skills
- ✓ Computer literate; Microsoft Word & Excel & Power Point

Consumer Lending Head
- ✓ Between 30 - 35 years old
- ✓ Graduate of any Business Related course
- ✓ With adequate experience in account management of real estate, auto, and personal loans

Account Officer
(For Commercial/Consumer Lending)
- ✓ Between 25 – 35 years old
- ✓ Graduate of any Business related course
- ✓ With at least 2 yrs. experience as Account Officer for Commercial and Consumer Loans

System Programmer
- ✓ Between 20 - 25 years old
- ✓ Graduate of Computer Science , Computer Engineering, ECE or related courses
- ✓ With at least 4 - 5 yrs. Programming exp. in the field of Banking & Finance
- ✓ AS400/RPG400 platform and language w/ knowledge on performance tuning on the different O/S
- ✓ Silverlake SIBS know-how is an advantage

Customer Sales Asst./Teller
(For Metro Manila, Dasmariñas, San Pablo, Baguio & Mandaue)
- ✓ Between 20 – 25 years old
- ✓ Graduate of any Business related course
- ✓ Experience in tellering / new accounts is an advantage

Audit Assistant
- ✓ Between 20 - 25 years old
- ✓ Graduate of Accounting; CPA
- ✓ With Audit experience
- ✓ Must be analytical.

Account Assistant
(For Commercial/Consumer Lending)
- ✓ Between 20 – 25 years old
- ✓ Graduate of any Business related course
- ✓ With at least 1 yr. experience as Account Assistant for Commercial or Consumer Loans

Sales & Service Officer
(For Metro Manila/Pool)
- ✓ Between 25 – 30 years old
- ✓ Graduate of any Business related course
- ✓ CPA an advantage
- ✓ 3 to 5 years experience in new accounts, tellering, bookeeping, and supervision

Applicants for the above positions must be:
- College Graduate
- Flexible
- Computer literate
- With good oral & written comm. skills
- With pleasing personality

Branch Manager
(For Dasmariñas/Metro Manila)
- ✓ Between 30 – 35 years old
- ✓ Graduate of any Business related course
- ✓ At least 2 yrs. Marketing experience & sufficient knowledge of branch operations

I.T. Auditor
- ✓ Between 22 - 30 years old
- ✓ Graduate of Accounting; CPA
- ✓ With at least 1 year experience in Systems Audit gained from an Audit Firm or Banks
- ✓ Must be highly analytical

Marketing Officer Asset & Liabilities
(For Metro Manila, Cebu-Mandaue, Iloilo, Davao, San Fernando, & Naga)
- ✓ Between 25 - 35 years old
- ✓ Graduate of any Business related course
- ✓ With strong marketing background preferably in Banking or related fields
- ✓ Familiar with solicitation of deposit and auto loan accounts

Collector
(For Northern Luzon)
- ✓ Male
- ✓ Between 25 – 35 years old
- ✓ College Graduate
- ✓ With at least 3 yrs. experience in Collection preferably on Auto Loan accounts
- ✓ Willing to be based in Baguio or Dagupan

Interested applicants may submit their Letter of Application, Resume, & Transcript of Records to:

ROBINSONS SAVINGS BANK - HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGEMENT GROUP
Units 101 & 201 Continental Court Condominium,
47 Annapolis Street, Greenhills, San Juan
Fax no. (632) 7212336 • Email: recruitment@robinsonsbank.com.ph
Only qualified applicants shall be notified.

A JG Summit Company

SAMIE International
Recruitment & Gen. Services
1918 Leon Guinto St., Malate, Manila, Philippines
Telephone No. 5280697/4050188 • Fax: 536-3383
P.O.E.A. License No. 558-lb-112902-R
Accreditation No. 72775

URGENT JOB ORDER FOR BELLELI COMPANY (JUBAIL)
Design Engineer – Thermal Design, FEA
CAD Operator – Expertise in CAD 2000
UT/RT Operator – ASNT level II qualification
Estimation Engineer – Techno Commercial bid preparation
Procurement Engineer – Price negotiation, imports
Project Engineer – Hands on working on Primavera P3
Shop Planning Engineer – Planning and scheduling using Primavera P3
Fabrication Superintendent & Supervisor – Handling multi-ethnic skilled workforce
Superintendent – Shipment, Cranes and heavy handling
Industrial Engineer / Cycle Analyst
Material Coordinator (Planning)
Warehouse Supervisor
Cycle Analyst
Dimensional Inspector – Client Co-ordination
Welding Inspector – AWS/CSWIP certification
Site Construction Superintendent – ITP client co-ordination, ISWO ASME Documentation
Heavy Press Operator
Spinning Machine Operator – exp. in operating spinning machine for forming head
Fitters – exp. in pressure vessels & heat exchange capable of reading & drawing
Welder – exp. in pressure vessels & Heat exchanger
CNC Operator – exp. in operating CNC cutting w/ gas LPG & plasma

URGENT JOB FOR AL KHALAF ADVERTISING (DAMMAM)
Graphic Designer – knowledge in Photoshop, Illustrator, Corel Draw
Fabricator – knowledge in build up letters, fabrication, soldering in zincore, stainless steel

URGENT JOB ORDER FOR AL ANSARI COMPANY (DAMMAM)
Furniture Painter
Furniture Carpenter w/ machine
Furniture Upholsterer
Furniture Designer
Assembly Carpenter
CAD Operator
Interior Designer
Network Engineer

URGENT JOB ORDER FOR FAMILY CHOICE TRADING CO. LTD.
All around Baker (Maker of American & French Bread)
Pastry Man
Butcher – work exp. in a meat supermarket

URGENT JOB ORDER FOR AL MADINAH
Muslim Gas Mechanic
Car Electrician – knowledge in Car computer

URGENT JOB ORDER
Dressmakers cut & sew

REQUIREMENTS : Resumé with job description, employment certificate with 2x2 pic. Interested applicants report in our office for personal interview.

Applicants from Cebu Area may submit their bio-data at Samie International Recruitment & Gen. Services, Cebu Branch, 11-EE Redemtorist Site, Cebu City. Telefax: 032-256-82-79

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Advertising Sales Manager
Outdoor Media and TV Sales

We're in search for a highly competative individual with advertising sales background and has a solid base of clients can conduct regular advertising agency rounds, capable of doing creative media packaging, with excellent negotiation skills, with good command of the English language both oral and written.

Interested applicants must submit their resumes and photo to:
The Human Resource Department
Unit 2410 24/F Medical Plaza San Miguel Avenue, Ortigas Center, Pasig CityTel. No. 687-0310
or Email.adreflexintl@yahoo.com

THE JUNNA GROUP OF COMPANIES

One of the country's leading industrial groups with global partners engaged in the business of distribution, industrial services, manufacturing, and research and development is in need of the following personnel:

TREASURY AND FINANCE SUPERVISOR
- ➢ Preferably Female, 25- 29 years old
- ➢ Bachelor's Degree in Accountancy
- ➢ Preferably CPA but not a requirement
- ➢ At least 2-3 years work experience in treasury and cash management functions
- ➢ Must have knowledge in Cashflow analysis and preparation

PURCHASING CLERK
- ➢ Male or Female, 24- 29 years old
- ➢ Proficient in written and oral communication
- ➢ Adept in the use of Microsoft Office
- ➢ Atleast 1 year experience in related field of work

SECRETARY
- ➢ Female
- ➢ Graduate of any 4-year course
- ➢ Computer Literate
- ➢ Proficient in oral and written communication
- ➢ With pleasing personality and good moral character

CADET ENGINEER
- ➢ Male, 24-29 years old
- ➢ Graduate of Mechanical Engineering
- ➢ Must be Computer Literate
- ➢ With or Without experience

TELEPHONE OPERATOR
- ➢ Graduate of any 4-year course
- ➢ With pleasing personality and good moral character

Interested applicants may hand-carry, mail or e-mail their resume with recent photo and transcript of records to PEOPLE CENTER DEPARTMENT.
(TO BE ASSIGNED IN QUEZON CITY)

JIC Bldg. 11 2419 Syquia corner Calderon St., Sta. Ana, Manila 1009

E-mail Address : hradmin@junna.com
Telephone No. : 563-5508 loc. 309

Rebisco

Be a part of a continuously growing snack food industry! We are in need of high caliber applicants to apply for the following positions:

ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT OFFICER
- Graduate of AB/BS Behavioral Science, Psychology or any related course
- With minimum of 2-3 years related experience as OD Officer preferably in a manufacturing firm
- Adept in conceptualizing and implementing effective organization development interventions / programs
- Highly analytical, organized and detail-oriented
- With above average communication and interpersonal skills

JR. PRODUCT ASSISTANT / BRAND SALES ANALYST & RESEARCH ANALYST
- Graduate of Marketing, Communication Research, Statistics, Psychology or any related field
- With at least 1 year experience in product management preferably with consumer products
- Result-oriented, highly creative and flexible
- With high numerical and analytical skills
- Computer literate

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
- Graduate of any business-related course
- Female, not more than 26 years old
- With 2 years related experience
- With good oral and written communication skills
- Computer literate
- Organized, flexible and hardworking
- With pleasing personality
- Willing to be assigned in Novaliches, Quezon City

Qualified applicants may e-mail or send their resumé with 2x2 picture to:
REPUBLIC BISCUIT CORPORATION
Human Resources Department
650 Brgy. Llano, Llano Road, Caloocan City
E-mail Address: hrd@rebisco.com.ph

SHANGRI-LA INTERNATIONAL
Is an expanding group of Hotels and Resorts in the Asia-Pacific region, consistently recognized as one of the world's leading hotel groups.

SHANGRI-LA'S MACTAN ISLAND RESORT

Situated on 13 hectares in Mactan, Cebu, it presently has 547 rooms and suites, seven Food and Beverage outlets, as well as large meeting and outdoor Sports & Recreation facilities.

The Resort is inviting applicants for various positions for its soon-to-open 10,000 square meter Spa Village combining unique water therapies and other Eastern and Oriental treatments. High potential for growth within the spa group for outstanding individuals:

ASSISTANT SPA MANAGER

- Male/Female, between 25 to 45 years old
- Physically fit
- College graduate; with background in Anatomy and Physiology
- Computer literate
- Proficient in both spoken and written English
- With at least 2 years experience in running a spa facility or in a similar job position
- Able to develop spa-client program
- Can work under pressure and long hours
- Customer-focused and service-oriented
- With good leadership skills
- Knowledge of Environmental Management Systems/ISO 14001 preferred

HEAD THERAPISTS

- Male/Female, between 25 to 45 years old
- Physically fit
- Nursing, Physical Therapy or Occupational Therapy graduate, an advantage
- Computer literate
- Proficient in both spoken and written English
- Preferably with minimum 2 years treatment experience
- Customer-focused and service-oriented
- With good leadership skills
- Patient, diligent and with high level of maturity
- Knowledge of Environmental Management Systems/ISO 14001 preferred

YOGA INSTRUCTORS

- Male/Female, between 30 to 50 years old
- Physically fit
- College graduate
- Proficient in both spoken and written English
- Preferably computer literate
- Must be a practitioner of the different disciplines of yoga
- Must have 2 to 3 years experience in teaching yoga
- Capable of handling individual and group classes
- Must have attended seminars and/or conferences related to yoga
- Background on other related disciplines (tai chi, etc.) an advantage
- Knowledge of Environmental Management Systems/ISO 14001 preferred

SPA THERAPISTS

- Male/Female, between 22 to 45 years old
- Physically fit
- With pleasing personality
- Nursing, Physical Therapy or Occupational Therapy graduate, an advantage
- Preferably computer literate
- Proficient in both written and spoken English and in other local dialects
- Customer-focused and service-oriented
- Knowledge of Environmental Management Systems/ISO 14001 preferred

RECEPTIONISTS

- Female, between 22 to 30 years old
- Physical Therapy graduate, an advantage
- Computer literate
- Physically fit
- With pleasing personality
- Proficient in both spoken and written English
- With at least 1 year experience in a similar job position
- Customer-focused and service-oriented
- Knowledge of Environmental Management Systems/ISO 14001 preferred

Please send your application letter, resume, work references and a recent photograph to:

THE DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES
Shangri-La's Mactan Island Resort, P.O. Box 86, Lapu-Lapu City 6015
Tel. No. (63-32) 231-0288 • Fax. No. (63-32) 231-5082

(We will respond to qualified applicants only. Unsigned letters and those without photographs will not be entertained.)

Shangri-La's
Mactan Island Resort
CEBU, PHILIPPINES

SOFANOU
Philippines, Inc.
QS-9000 Registered

We need you!

[illegible] Sofanou Philippines, Inc., a subsidiary of Sofanou Inc., a US based company and the [illegible] leader in providing high quality, reliable wire protection to the harness assembly industry. We are everywhere in the world having production sites and logistics bases in North America, South America, Europe, Africa and Asia.

Sales/Application Engineer

- Male/female
- Graduate of any Engineering course
- [illegible] knowledgeable in wire harness manufacturing (design and application is a plus)
- Knowledge in supplying components or subsystems in the automotive industry is a plus
- [illegible] experience is a plus
- Excellent communication skills
- Willing to travel

Salary is commensurate to experience and qualifications.

Submit your application letter, resumé, TOR and 2x2 photo **on or before August 31, 2004** to
The General Manager
Sofanou Philippines, Inc., MEZ II, AboitizLand, Basak, Lapu-lapu City

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JOBMarket ONLINE

Plains & Prints is a fast-growing brand of women's apparel, intimate wear, fragrances and other fashion accessories. With 29 outlets nationwide, Plains & Prints joins the ranks of the top fashion retail companies in the Philippines.

We are currenly looking for competent people to fill in the following positions:

plains&prints

MANAGEMENT TRAINEE
- With at least one year work experience in the retail industry handling Sales

AREA SALES SUPERVISOR
- With at lest one year work experience as an Area Sales Supervisor
- Capable of training store personnel and has a good track record in Sales

BUYER
- Has extensively worked as a Buyer in the retail industry, preferably handling the same line of products.

SENIOR MERCHANDISER
- Preferably with 2-3 years work experience in a similar business handling both product development as well as merchandise mix and inventory level analyses.

FASHION DESIGNER
- Has intensive work experience in fashion designing preferably of women's apparel
- Exceptionally creative: updated with the latest trends in clothing

GRAPHIC DESIGNER
- Has a knack and passion for drawing
- Adept in the use of computer graphic applications

General Qualifications: College Degree Holder, Computer-literate, With high leadership, communication and analytical skills. Possesses strong Marketing and Promotions skills. Multi-tasking

Submit your resume with 2x2 picture personally at 21 Mapalad St. San Francisco Del Monte, Q.C. or email to plainsandprints@yahoo.com. Please indicate the position you are applying for.

Qualified candidates shall be given a remuneration package commensurate to their qualifications.

EASTERN PETROLEUM CORPORATION

Is in need of applicants for the following positions:

Accounting Assistant
- Graduate of BS Accountancy
- Background on Gen. Accounting
- Proficient in Excel, MS Word
- Keen to details
- With pleasing personality

Engineering Assistant
- 21-30 years old
- Graduate of Architecture
- With or without license
- Background in construction an advantage
- Willing to do field work
- Knows AUTOCAD

Marketing Executive
- 21-30 years old
- Marketing/Engineering Graduate
- Computer literate and Driving skills
- With pleasing personality

Interested applicants may apply personally or send their resume to Eastern Petroleum Corporation 7th floor Cityland Pasong Tamo Tower #2210 Don Chino Roces Ave., Makati City.

DESIGNS LIGNA

SALES MANAGER
Responsible for managing sales force at the retail outlets for fine furniture and accessories. Plans and implements effective sales strategies. We are looking for a confident woman with a four year college degree, extensive retail experience, is computer literate and between 30-45yrs old. A background in furniture/interior design is preferable.

SALES EXECUTIVES
Responsible for selling domestic and institutional furniture. We are looking for women w/ professional bearing and competence to meet the needs of discriminating clients & an elite production team. The successful candidate will have a 4yr college degree, be 25-40yrs old, computer literate, willing to work in a mall setting 6 days/wk.A furniture/interior design background is a preferable.

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT
Responsible for setting schedules, taking minutes of meetings, organizing letters & press releases for Chief Executive & mobile to work in several Metro Manila offices. We are looking for a good communicator with 4yr college degree, 25-45yrs old, computer literate, with a professional bearing and competence.

FINANCE MANAGER
Responsible for enhancing internal controls and systems. Makes financial reports, recommendations and supervises accounting team. We are looking for a CPA w/ experience, 25-45yrs, computer literate, willing to work in a factory setting.

INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERS
Responsible for recommending improved production processes. We are looking for individuals 24-35yrs old to complement an elite production team, experience in furniture manufacture is an advantage, must know at least MSWord & MSOffice.

Please email your resumes to us at: dlignahires@skyinet.net

BE A PART OF OUR TEAM

A medium-sized Law Firm based in Quezon City is in need of **ASSOCIATES** with the following qualifications:

☐ Must come from a reputable law school
☐ Must have passed the bar exams
☐ Must be computer literate
☐ Must have good writing skills

Interested applicants may submit their resumé via fax: 415-6265 or through e-mail: MTA_LAW@yahoo.com

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A leading company in the aggregates industry is urgently in need of a topnotch individuals to fill up the following positions:

MARKETING MANAGER
- Female, 30 to 45 years old
- Pleasing personality
- At least Engineering or Marketing graduates
- With at least 5 years experience in managing sales and marketing activities
- With basic knowledge in Quality Control of construction materials e.g. aggregates, concrete & asphalt mixes
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills
- Ability to create and implement a variety of approaches in attracting new customers
- Computer literate
- Knows how to drive

CADET ENGINEER
- Female, 21 to 25 years old
- Engineering graduate preferably Industrial Engineer, licensed Mechanical or Civil Engineer
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills
- Computer literate

COMPUTER PROGRAMMER
- Male or Female, 21 to 35 years old
- Graduate of any computer related course
- Knowledgeable in VB6, ACCESS, SQL programs
- With at least one (1) year experience

For **Marketing Manager** position, please submit your comprehensive resumé, Transcript of Records, diploma, certificate of employment and 1x1 photo at Room 888, Ortigas Building, Ortigas Ave., Pasig City, Tel. Nos. 631-2684, 631-2723

For other positions, please apply in person together with your comprehensive resumé, Transcript of Records, diploma, certificate of employment and 1x1 photo on Don Mariano Santos Ave., Brgy. San Isidro, Angono, Rizal. Tel. Nos. 651-3211 to 15.

ICBPI The International Career, Business & People Institute

BE A CALL CENTER AGENT AND EARN BIG MONEY

Requirements:
- 6 MONTHS SALES EXPERIENCE
- OUTGOING, ASSERTIVE & CONFIDENT
- TYPE-A PERSONALITY
- GOOD ENGLISH SKILLS

2-DAY SCREENING ON:
Aug. 9-10, Monday - Tuesday, 9 am - 5 pm

Interested applicants, please bring your CVs and proceed to:

ICBPI
3F, E-Square Building
416 Ortigas Ave.
Greenhills, San Juan
(Between Madison St. & Santolan Rd.)

DEV'T SCHOOL. TRAINING MANAGEMENT & CONSULTANCY. EXECUTIVE SEARCH

Promo Dimensions Inc.

(Clients include: Procter & Gamble, Pepsi, SC Johnson)
Needs the following:

a) Brand Models
- Male/Female
- 18-26 years old
- Good - looking, attractive
- Smart / talented
- At least 5'2" in height

b) Promo Supervisors / Promo Boys/Girls
- College level
- 18-26 years old
- Good in oral and written communications

c) Management Trainees
- Graduate of Mass Communications, Marketing and other related Business Course

Promo Dimensions Inc. is at
2F Gaisano Bldg., #88 Shaw Blvd.,
Brgy. Oranbo, Pasig, Metro Manila
(beside WATSON'S & LANDBANK)
or Call: 6830895/6329708

A RURAL DEVELOPMENT NGO is in need of:

RESEARCH AND DOCUMENTATION OFFICER

Qualifications:
- College graduate preferably with background on research and publication
- At least 2 years experience in related work
- Proficient in written and verbal communication in English & Filipino
- Familiar with basic computer operations in publishing and database management

Responsibilities:
- To develop and manage the information system of the organization, including research, documentation and publication work

MARKETING OFFICER

Qualifications:
- Graduate of Agri-business, Agri-economics or any course related to agriculture marketing plus relevant trainings
- At least 2 years experience in related work
- Proficient in written and verbal communication in English & Filipino
- Knowledge in computer operation

Responsibilities:
- Assist the Project Manager in all aspects of marketing transactions and operations

Interested applicants should mail application letter, resumé, photocopy of transcript of records and 1x1 ID picture not later than August 20, 2004 to the Executive Director of CARRD at 22 Malipid Street, Sikatuna Village, 1101 Quezon City.

EXPORT CO. needs the ff:
Preferably residing w/n QC

1. STORE MERCHANDISERS
—w/ exp in export mfg Retail Store

2. ACCTG/AUDIT STAFF
—Acctng grad w exp in Gen Acctng Retail Store

3. PRODUCTION SUPERVISORS
— Pref industrial Eng.,35 y.o below
— w/ exp. in metal mfg /can work under pressure

4. RETAIL STORE COORDINATOR/ ATTENDANT
— Female,5'4 ht can speak fluent Eng.
— 3rd year coll.level in Bus./Art School
— w/ effective & selling skills, confident.

5. INDUSTRIAL DESIGNERS
— w/ rel. exp. in horns, bones,stainless,shells, wood designing
— w/ sense of style, taste & details

email to mzrlnd@yahoo.com or send to
#32 Chicago St., Cubao,QC
visit also our website www.mzrlnd.com

JOB *Market*

SUNDAY, AUGUST 8, 2004
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Interviews will be held immediately *(no exams)*.

Successful applicants will be trained within 72 hours.

Apply in person at:

CONTACTPOINT OUTSOURCE SERVICES, INC.
31st Floor Wynsum Corporate Plaza, Emerald Avenue, Ortigas Center, Pasig City
www.contactpoint.bz email: jobs_cp@pacific.net.ph

Other positions open:

- Operations Managers
- Operations Supervisors
- Service Quality Officers
- Training Specialist
- Recruitment Specialist
- Senior Developer

Our group is engaged in the production and export marketing of fresh produce. As part of our expansion, we are urgently in need of:

CONTROLLER

- Have extensive knowledge and experience in all areas of finance and accounting, and controllership with at least 8 years managerial experience
- A Certified Public Accountant with MBA an advantage
- Computer literate (MS Office), and possessing excellent written and oral communication skills, mature, a team player and with strong leadership

ASSISTANT ACCOUNTING MANAGER

- Have extensive knowledge in accounting controls, review and preparation of financial statement package and other reports
- With at least 5 years experience in similar capacity
- Must be a CPA
- With MBA and SAP background an advantage
- Computer literate (MS Office), and possessing excellent written and oral communication skills, mature, a team player and with strong leadership

CORPLAN ANALYST

- Have extensive knowledge and experience in the areas of finance and controls
- With at least 3 years in similar capacity
- Accounting degree and preferably a CPA
- Computer literate, excellent analytical and communication skills
- SAP implementation experience an advantage
- Team player and able to relate with people in various levels of the organization

RISK SUPERVISOR

- Have extensive knowledge and experience in the identification and analyses of areas of potential risk that threaten assets and their earning capacity
- With at least 4 years experience in risk & insurance analysis and management of all lines of life and non-life insurance
- Finance or Accounting degree, a CPA an advantage
- Computer literate, excellent analytical and communication skills
- Team player and able to relate with people in various levels of the organization

ASSET CUSTODIAN

(for DAVAO residents)

- Have extensive knowledge and experience in the safeguarding of assets, conducting appraisal valuations/inspections
- With at least 3 years in similar capacity
- College degree, business or engineering preferred
- Computer literate, excellent analytical and communication skills
- Team player and able to relate with people in various levels of the organization

Submit your letter of application, a detailed biodata with a passport-sized photo to the address below:

Manila Office : Corporate Human Resources
G/F 2263 Pasong Tamo Extension, Makati City or
MCPO Box 2105
Makati City – 1261

Email address : hr@lapanday.com

The World's Leading Global Hotel Company Needs You!

INTERCONTINENTAL.
HOTELS GROUP

INTERCONTINENTAL CROWNE PLAZA indigo

Each year, more than 150 million people find a warm welcome at a hotel or resort bearing one of InterContinental Hotels Group's international lodging brands. Around the globe, more than 3,200 hotels flying our flag offer a variety of services, amenities and lodging experiences catering to virtually every travel occasion. Our Business Service Center provides quality customer service to the many guests who stay with us.

Desktop Support Specialist

- Must be a licensed engineer with at least 3 years working experience in related field.
- Preferably MCSE, MCT, CNE, CCNA, or Sun Sys Admin certified.
- Macintosh experience a plus.
- Must work effectively both within a team and independently.
- Must be willing to work in shifts.

Email resume to phlro.resumes@ichotelsgroup.com by 22nd August 2004
Qualified applicant must be available for placement immediately,
and only qualified applicants will be contacted.

29/f, Tower 2, RCBC Plaza
Ayala Ave., cor. Sen. Gil Puyat, Makati City
PHLRO.Resumes@ichotelsgroup.com

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

The country's leading newspaper is looking for:

PERSONNEL ASSISTANT

Qualifications:

- Graduate of Psychology or Behavioral Science
- Preferably male, at least 2 years experience in recruitment and selection
- Familiar with psychological tests
- Knows how to use office software
- Interpersonal and Communication Skills, Analytical Skills, Report Writing Skills

Responsibilities:

- To provide recruitment, selection and employment services and maintain an HR information system.

ACCOUNTING CLERK

Qualifications:

- College graduate major in Accounting
- 1 year experience in this job or other similar jobs
- Knowledge of basic accounting principles
- Knowledge of different entries in the check voucher
- Knowledge of basic computer operation
- Accounting Skills, Report Writing Skills, Ability to prepare check, Interpersonal Skills, Filing Skills, Computer Skills

Responsibilities:

- Responsible for the preparation of checks and preparation of monthly schedule of accruals, journal entries of accounts payable and maintenance of its subsidiary ledger.

EDITORIAL SYSTEMS ANALYST/PROGRAMMER

Qualifications:

- College graduate preferably Computer Science,
  Computer Engineering or other related course
- 1-2 years experience on this job or jobs leading to it
- Knowledge in Visual Basic or powerbuilder, VB Scripting or Perl Scripting, Web programming, MS SQL 2000 or Sybase SQL or other database management (RDBMS)
- Knowledge in Short Message Service applications is a plus

Responsibilities:

- Responsible for systems analysis, design and development of specific customized software application required by the company
- Documents software applications for in-house user training.

SUBSIDIARY CLERK

Qualifications:

- College graduate major in Accounting
- 1 year experience in this job or other similar jobs
- Knowledge of basic computer operation
- Accounting Skills, Filing Skills, Interpersonal Skills, Computer Skills

Responsibilities:

- Responsible for Advertising accounts receivables, checking of rebates, commission of direct and classified accounts.
- Responsible for reconciling accounts with clients and maintaining files of clients' vouchers and subsidiary ledgers of agencies, direct and other products.

MARKETING INFORMATION OFFICER

Qualifications:

- Graduate of 4 year Business course, Management Information Systems or any relevant course
- 2 years marketing experience
- Knowledge in market research, product price, distribution and promotions strategies and its implementation
- Creative Writing Skills, Ability to analyze the market and ability to organize, leadership skills, Interactive Marketing Skills & computer skills
- Familiar with database management systems
- Has experience in developing wireless promotions

Responsibilities:

- Responsible for the administration of the encoding and compiling of database derived from various mediums for brand use. Also responsible for managing and developing the wireless and text promotion for brands in order to assist in achieving sales targets.

Send your application letter
and comprehensive resumé or e-mail to:

HR MANAGEMENT SERVICES HEAD
Philippine Daily Inquirer
Chino Roces Avenue (formerly Pasong Tamo)
Corner Yague and Mascardo Streets,
Makati City

E-mail: recruitment@inquirer.com.ph

A reputable educational institution in Region IV needs a

Building Superintendent

who will be in charge of the maintenance and management of its physical plant and facilities.

Qualifications:

- Licensed Electrical Engineer with knowledge and skills in the management and maintenance of physical plant and facilities including centralized and stand alone air conditioning systems, boiler, cooling tower, generator and other instructional tools and equipment which involve electrical and mechanical facilities.
- Must have gained well - grounded work experiences and trainings on the maintenance of cleanliness and orderliness from big companies or organizations.
- Must be willing to extend extra hours beyond the normal office hours.
- Must have supervisory skills; can demand competence, dedication, and a spirit of teamwork from the maintenance staff.

Those who qualify may apply in the following address.

c/o P.O. Box no. 1151
Intramuros, Manila

A leading Maritime Education in Region IV
urgently needs a

Shipboard Training Officer

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Applicants should have the following qualifications:

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- Knowledge on mainstream RDBMS – SQL Server, Oracle, DB2
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- Proficiency in reading and writing Unified Modeling Language (UML) is preferred
- Proficiency in unit testing techniques and tools
- Excellent analytical skills
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- Knowledge in mainstream RDBMS – SQL Server, Oracle, DB2
- Experience in reading and writing Unified Modeling Language (UML) is preferred
- Proficiency in unit testing techniques and tools
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Interview tips to bag the job

ILLUSTRATION BY ALBERT RODRIGUEZ

By Candy G. Villanueva

AFTER days of fidgeting and waiting by the phone, you finally got that call that could change your life. The next step now is to get that job in the bag through the interview. This is your chance to sell yourself in person. What you'll need is a battle plan and a marketing strategy. Are you ready to claim that job? Here's a quick checklist to help you close the deal.

Right package

According to highly respected personnel development consultant Mariecor Salas-Ding, "It is significant to project a winning image to define yourself and your role as a professional in a chosen occupation." The first and easiest step to a winning image is wardrobe.

Start by choosing the right color that works best for you. Power and professional colors are usually dark and toned down like black, gray, white, blue, red, maroon, purple and khaki. This doesn't mean that you have to limit yourself to these hues. If you feel that you'd look better in pastels then go ahead. Just remember not to dress loudly.

The ultimate power garment is the suit. It represents reliability, authority and confidence. It's time you invest on at least one but for the meantime, you would look presentable in tailored cuts. Refrain from glitters, prints and revealing styles. Accessories complete the package. Go for leather and make sure the color of your shoes, bag and belt match.

Plan and prepare

Try to simulate a mock interview with a friend or an advisor. Anticipating possible questions will help you prepare your answers. Prepare for questions like, "Why are you interested in this position?" "What makes you qualified?" "What are your plans five years from now?" "What are your strengths?" "What are your experiences?" Review your resume. You may have forgotten several details in your resume. Make sure you can explain gaps in your resume and why you resigned from your previous work.

Get a good night's sleep so you'll look fresh and alert during the interview. Allot several hours to prepare before the interview so you won't be harassed. Consider the traffic in the city and plan your travel time well. Heavy traffic in Metro Manila is an accepted fact and is, therefore, a sorry excuse for tardiness. Plan your wardrobe the night before so you don't waste time tearing through your closet hours before the interview. While you're at it, clean and polish your shoes the night before.

Call the company in advance to ask for directions and the complete name of your interviewer. Arrive a few minutes early. This will give you a chance to be comfortable with the place and will familiarize you with the work environment. Learn more about the company. The receptionist or secretary could give you tips about the interviewer. You could also learn from applicants waiting in the lobby, especially those who've completed the initial interviews. Arriving early will also give you a chance to powder your nose and pull yourself together.

Another practical tip is to bring money in case you need to make a phone call. And in case the job is awarded to you right then and there, you will have the money to spend for the medical exam. Some interviewers will make you wait for hours. Bring light snacks and water. Don't make the mistake of coming to the interview too full because you might risk yawning or burping in between questions. Another trick is to bring a good reading material to keep you busy while waiting. An interesting book is a better accessory compared to a shiny bracelet because reading suggests intelligence.

Art of intro

Your introduction is a critical point of the interview. Walk in with grace and confidence. Be mindful of your posture, be careful not to slouch. Smile, shake hands and start with a greeting. Introduce yourself by saying, "Good morning, my name is ..." or "Nice to meet you, I'm ..." Look your interviewer in the eye and shake hands with a firm, strong grip. A weak clasp suggests lack of confidence.

If the interviewer offers a business card, go through it quickly to express interest before putting it away. If you have your own card, extend it with your thumb with the card facing the receiver. Sit down only when asked.

Carrying yourself

Don't allow your eyes to roam. Focus on your prospective employer. If you have trouble looking someone in the eye, concentrate on the bridge of the nose. You will still appear like you're maintaining eye contact. Do remember, however, that there is a big difference between eye contact and staring.

Don't fidget or play with your fingers. Relax your hands on top of the table, on your lap or on the chair's arms. This suggests openness. Crossing your arms against your chest is a non-verbal message that says you are not open to the person you are talking to.

Be careful how you cross your legs. Women should be more mindful specially when wearing a skirt. The attention should be on your eyes and not on your legs.

Men should also be careful about crossing their legs or tapping their feet. These will suggest nervousness or anxiety. Always remember that facial expressions, body posture and gestures are just as powerful as words themselves.

Easy conversation

Be polite without going over the hilt. Use words like "please" and "thank you" when necessary. Reserve "po" and "ho" to your grandparents. If you are not comfortable with the English language, speak in Tagalog. Straight Filipino is more pleasing to the ear than pidgin English.

An interview is not a quiz bee contest so there won't be any buzzers timing your answers. Take your time to think and construct your answers in your head before speaking. Speak loudly and clearly and to the point. To avoid stuttering, speak slowly.

A lot of people make the common mistake of formulating their response in their head while the other party in the conversation is still talking. By doing so, you may miss some important points the speaker is trying to communicate. This may also lead you to make the wrong response or ask a question that has been previously brought up. Develop a good listening ear.

According to Lirio Ongpin-Mapa, vice president of the Center for Leadership and Change, an effective way of listening is to listen with the body, the eyes, the ears and the heart open and the mouth closed.

Listening is only half the battle. Understanding is the next step. To understand, ask questions and don't be afraid to clarify. Asking would also signify your interest. Saying little is just as bad as talking too much. If you didn't hear your interviewer the first time, use words like "pardon me" or "say that again please?" Never say "what?" or worse, "ha?"

Be vocal about your interest for the company without being too over eager. Assert your skills and share what you can do for the company. "Sell your qualifications rather than your need for the job," reminds Alina Manaig, managing consultant of John Clements Consultants. Be sure of your goals and objectives.

Getting across

Your resume outlines your skills and background. Say only the things your interviewer would like to hear or expound on points not found in your resume. Leave the personal stuff at home.

Don't ask about pay and benefits upfront. You want to project the idea that you want the job because of the challenge and the career growth it offers and not because of the money. Leave these sensitive questions for the later part of the interview or in the succeeding interviews.

Near the end, it is important to have closure. Ask your prospective employer when you can expect to hear from them. It is important to know what to expect from your interviewer. To achieve this, clarify what would be the next step in the application process. "You will want to ask questions to gather additional information for the benefit of your own decision making," adds Manaig. Finally, thank the interviewer for his or her time.

Then what?

You did the whole song and dance and have done everything within your power during the interview. Should you then sit and wait again and leave your fate to the stars? There is a better route at waiting—evaluate. Manaig advises to jot down or note your impressions of the interview after. This will allow you to assess your performance and remind you of the things that you will do differently on the next interviews.

After a week, call or send a letter to follow up and thank the interviewer for the opportunity. Remember not to put all your hopes on that one job opening. After the interview, let it go. Divert your attention on other applications and openings. This way you don't encourage any false hopes. Open yourself up to other possibilities and just keep trying. Sooner or later your dream job will simply land on your lap.

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Topic 2: Gearing Education and Training Towards Full Employment
Topic 3: Revving Up MSMEs for Job Creation

DAY 2 AUGUST 24, TUESDAY
AM SESSION
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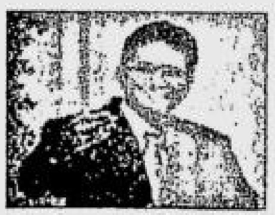

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Qualified applicants must bring the following requirements:

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Quiapo, Manila for the Requirements

'I earn big bucks but don't like my job'

From page 8

joyed doing and in the other column, what you didn't like doing.

• Take an interest test. You can go back to your school and get the guidance office to allow you to take an interest test. Or you may want to look at a very simple interest test devised by Richard Bolles known as "The Quick Job-Hunting Map: The Party," which is found on p. 37 of my Life/Career Planning Workbook (available in popular bookstores). After you have identified your interests, look at some examples of occupations where you will enjoy each of these interests.

Validate the data you obtained from the interest test by relating it to your "dream job" and with the data in your "like" column. Write a one-paragraph description of your dream job and where you are likely to get it, i.e. what industry and what company or organization in your preferred industry has this "dream job." In the business section of newspapers you can get information on industries especially those that are booming ("sunrise industries") and those that are waning ("sunset industries") so you can decide where to look for companies in the former category.

2. **Make your network and use it.** Look for people who know people who have information about jobs in your career interests. Ask your relatives and friends, and your friends' parents and friends about job vacancies in the companies or organizations where they work. Some companies depend on their employees' referrals.

3. **Get information about job vacancies from other sources.** Look also at newspapers that publish vacant positions and what companies and industries need them. Go to the Public Employment Service Office (PESO) in your city government office. You can also look at the Internet for job vacancies. If you go to the main office of the Bureau of Employment of the Department of Labor and Employment in Intramuros, you can have access to their Internet for current job vacancies, both local and overseas, and requirements for each vacancy. Or, you can access www.dole.gov.ph and phil-jobnet.dole.gov.ph.

4. **Get information about the jobs related to your career interests.** Have your contacts get you to interview persons who are employed in your career interest to get information on what they actually do (job content), working conditions, salaries and benefits, rewards, problems likely to be encountered, and how they are solved, etc.

When you are interviewed, interview also the interviewer. Ask permission if you can ask questions like: What are the main tasks in this job? How much time do I give to these main tasks? Is there a career path in this job? Depending on the receptivity of the interviewer to your questions, you can continue asking about salaries and benefits, working conditions, etc.

Contrary to what many think, there are many vacancies waiting to be filled by the right person. Companies are looking for the right persons who meet their requirements. People like yourself are looking for the right jobs that also meet their requirements, e.g., career interests, their needs and values, and use the skills they enjoy using.

DIONISIO BUCCAT

ILLUSTRATION BY DIONISIO BUCCAT

Do not stay in a job that you don't enjoy doing even if it pays you a salary that meets your current needs. Getting the right job in the right career should be your immediate goal. If you are in the right job in the right career, you will give your all to it because you enjoy it. You will develop the skills you like so that what you produce is outstanding. When you are productive, increase in salaries, benefits and career advancement follow.

You are concerned also about not having the interpersonal skills you need for teaching and for an HR job. Interpersonal skills are needed in all kinds of jobs although some jobs require them more than others. The good news is you can develop these skills. How? Be aware of what interpersonal skills you are lacking in, then develop them. One basic skill is to be aware of how your actions affect another person whom you are trying to influence. Ask yourself, if I were in the place of this person, how would I want to be talked to? The practice of the Golden Rule is a basic interpersonal skill. There are many books on interpersonal skills like those written by Dale Carnegie that you can read on this subject.

God bless you.

(Ms Santamaria is president of Career Systems Inc., a leading career development consultancy company. Send requests for career advice to carsys@qinet.net *or to* peopleatwork@inquirer.com.ph)

Bring work and life ...

From page 8

boundaries are so that when you get a huge project, you won't allow your boundaries to evaporate because of the demands of the project? Setting boundaries will help you have a work-life balance that provides you enjoyment, peace, and fulfillment in all aspects of your life.

When you feel a great amount of stress and burden from the demands of your work, it's almost impossible to make time for what you most need or want in your life. This is why having and setting boundaries is so vitally important. If you keep your boundaries strong, they will protect you and take care of you no matter how difficult, troubling, or challenging your work can become.

4. **Set realistic and lower expectations with yourself.** Set realistic expectations with yourself that allow for "underpromising." What is "underpromising?" It's allowing yourself to do less than you think you can do. If you think it will take 1.5 hours to do something, give yourself two. Do the following:

Step 1. Give yourself increased time frames to get things done.

Step 2. Increase the amount of gentleness and compassion you have for how much you need to get things done.

Step 3. Increase your expectations of yourself so you have more room to fail and more room to succeed.

You'll be less inclined to beat yourself up when you have "underpromising" expectations. Most people say they "underpromise," but do exactly the opposite by giving themselves very high expectations.

For example, if they think they have an hour to get something done, they give themselves 40 minutes. This puts extra pressure on them. Actually, 80 percent of the executives I work with create such high expectations that they rarely accomplish what needs to get done.

Practice these four suggestions and you'll soon see a decrease in your stress level and an increase in the quality of your work.

(*Copyright* 2004, *Joel Garfinkle, all rights reserved. Visit his site at* dreamjobcoaching.com.)

POEA releases list ...

From page 8

after which they will have to return to their country of origin.

Dimzon also announced that aside from the list of 6,000 applicants, POEA has also submitted a list of "voluntary leavers" for selection by Korean employers. This category of workers are those who left Korea voluntarily before November 2003 until February 2004. They are being allowed by the Korean government to return to Korea to work even without waiting for the required five years interim period.

The list of the pre-qualified candidates are posted on the POEA bulletin board and is also available at the web site www.poea.gov.ph. Queries can also be entertained at the POEA hotline 722-1155 and 722-1144.

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OPERATIONS MANAGER
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- With at least two (2) years work experience in the retail business in the same capacity
- Must be analytical, results-oriented, artistic, creative and with good fashion sense

FINANCE OFFICER
- Must be very flexible and willing to do other jobs e.g. HR and administrative work
- CPA
- With master's degree an advantage

HR MANAGER
- HR graduate
- Hardworking, aggressive and personable
- Must be willing to work on weekends and holidays

SALES CONSULTANTS/SUPERVISOR
- Must have initiative, ability, and sustained interest in selling fashion items
- Must possess a pleasing and dynamic personality
- Must be willing to work on weekends and holidays

FOOD AND BEVERAGE MANAGER
- HRM graduate
- At least 3 years work experience in managing a restaurant
- Knowledgeable in menu planning and food costing

Interested applicants may send their comprehensive resume, transcript of records and a recent 2x2 photo to:

2/F, Glorietta 4
Ayala Center, Makati City

1st Level Rockwell
Power Plant Mall
Rockwell Drive Center
Estrella Street, Makati City

2nd Level Rustan's Shangri-la Plaza
EDSA corner Shaw Boulevard
Mandaluyong City

(Only qualified applicants will be scheduled for an interview)

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Male/Female, Single/Married, College graduate of any course.
Apply in person with resumé & any original credentials.
Hiring will be on Monday to Saturday, 8:00 am to 5:00 pm,
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Interested applicants may email their CV or Resume in MS Word format and send it to [illegible] on or before August 18, 2004

WANTED SALES CLERK
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- College level
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- w/ pleasing personality

Apply personally w/ bio-data & other requirements at
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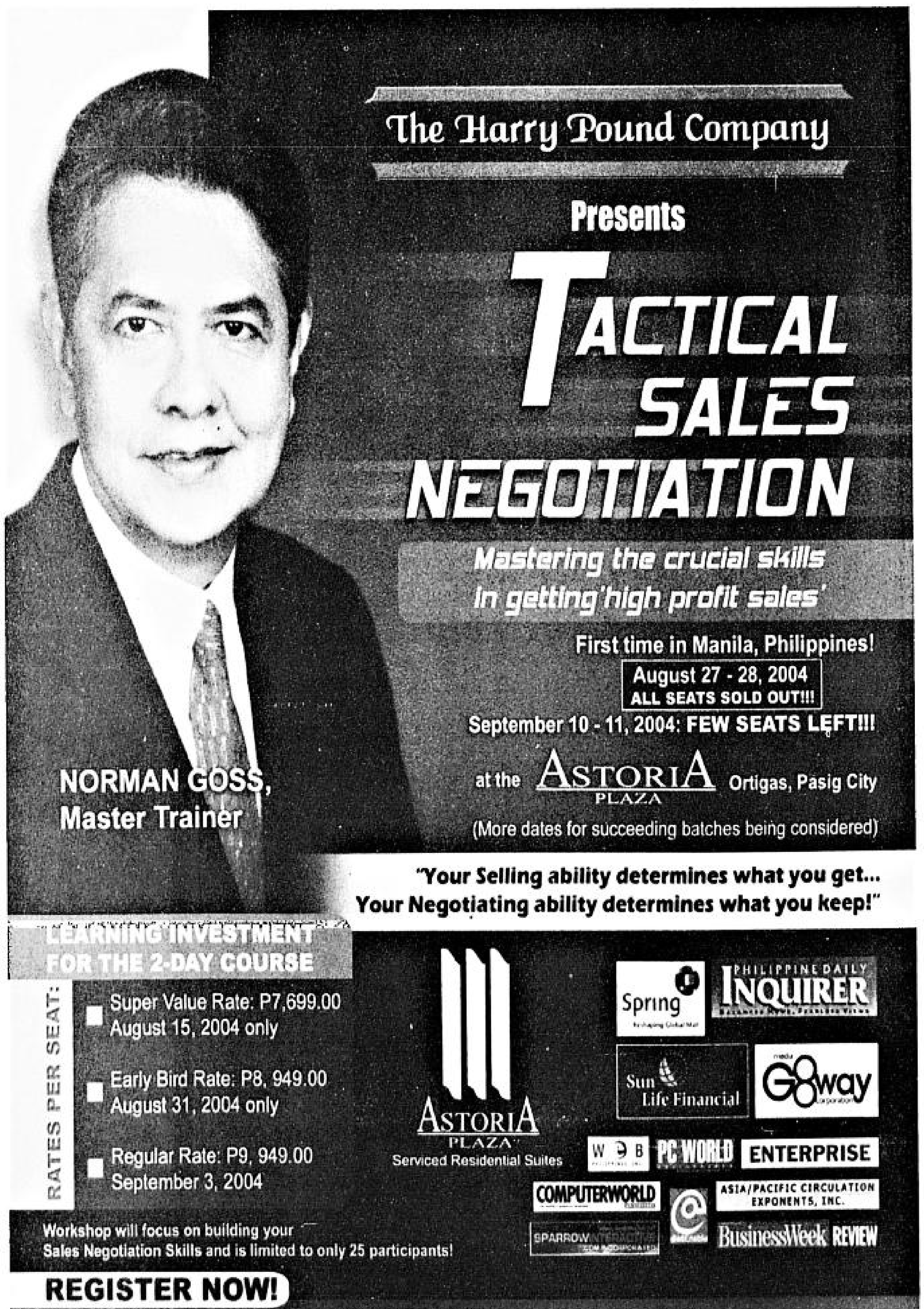
726-5624 bet. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

COUNTER SALES
- male/female
- marketing or management graduate
- sales & customer service oriented
- with experience as Cashier
- pleasing personality
- good communication skills
- computer literate

Pls. send resumé thru e-mail (cristina@dchl.org)



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Philippine International Trading Corporation

A government corporation with over 31 years of professional expertise in international trading is looking for a highly dynamic and competent individual to fill the position of

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Interested and qualified applicants may send their comprehensive resume (with details of work experiences), latest ID picture, transcript of records, eligibility certificate until 23 August 2004 to the

Philippine International Trading Corporation
PERSONNEL & TRAINING DEPARTMENT
4F NDC Bldg., 116 Tordesillas St.,
Salcedo Village, Makati City

SCOPRO ***SCOPRO* OPTICAL CO., INC.,**
manufacturer / exporter of sport optics is in need of:

LENS PROCESS ENGINEER

Qualifications:

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- Mechanical Engineering graduate
- Has knowledge in AUTO CAD
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SCOPRO OPTICAL CO., INC.
Boncraft Building, Mayon corner Pinatubo Streets
Mandaluyong City Tel# 533-8171 to 72

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MITSUBA PHILIPPINES Corporation
Lot 1 Block 14 Phase II,
First Cavite Industrial Estate
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* Oracle database experience a plus
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(We are not a recruitment agency)

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Philippine Tuberculosis Initiatives for the Private Sector (Philippine TIPS), a project funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) under USAID Contract Number 492-C-00-02-00031 and implemented by a consortium led by Chemonics International Inc., is in need of personnel to fill in the following positions:

Administrative Assistants (2)

- College graduate
- Good verbal and written communication skills
- Highly organized and efficient
- Can work under pressure and minimum supervision
- Computer literate (MS Word, Excel, Powerpoint, etc.)
- With at least 1 year experience of the same capacity

Bookkeeper (1)

- Female, B.S. Accounting graduate
- With at least 1 year general accounting experience
- Computer literate

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- Female, Secretarial graduate
- Good verbal and written communication skills
- Highly organized and efficient
- With at least 1 year experience of the same capacity
- Computer literate

Qualified applicants are requested to send their expression of interest together with their resumé to phil_tips@philtips.com or Fax: 687-2195.

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If you think you measure up to the requirements, please send your application letter together with a comprehensive resumé, 2x2 photo & transcript of your school records to:

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Attention: HR Services

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- Must possess good communication skills

Send your resumé with application letter to
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Kindly indicate **Applicant** as subject.

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Sunday PEOPLEatWORK

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Contributing Editor Regina Galang Reyes

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Bring work and life into balance

By Joel Garfinkle

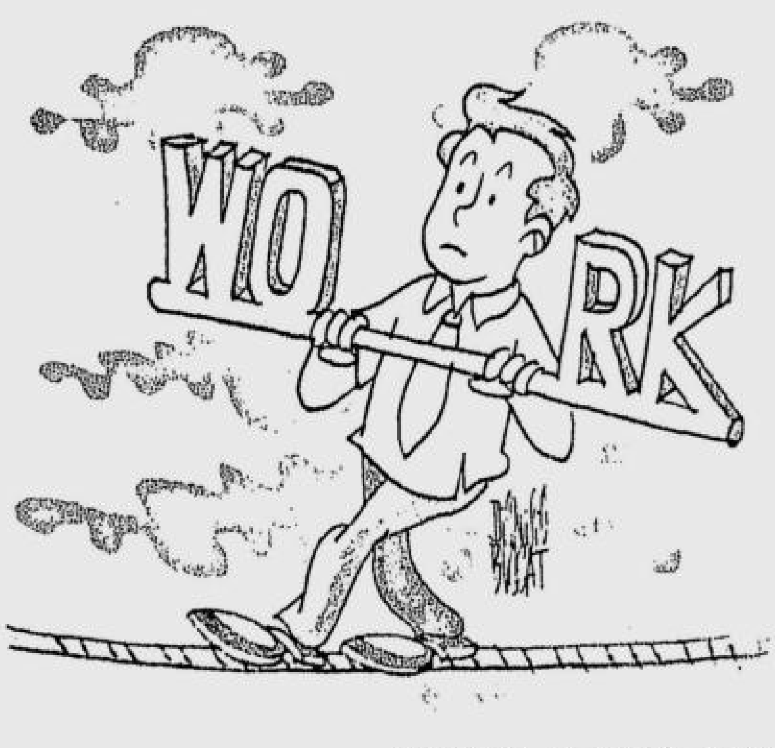

ILLUSTRATION BY DIONISIO BUCCAT

MOST people don't know how to balance work in relationship to other areas of their life, often described as work-life balance. Hectic work schedules, increased responsibility, new technology. and the need to read and respond to growing quantities of e-mail and voicemail are just some of the things that place huge demands on your work life.

This pressure may cause you to feel as if your work is a prison that you can never escape as more and more keeps coming at you. Many of us work in environments. that have management's hands-on involvement. Work comes from a lot of different sources and you might be supporting many different people. You're pulled in various directions without knowing why or .understanding how to cope with expectations from multiple people. It's a lot to handle and makes a work-life balance seem unattainable.

Work demands

One of my clients was working in the biotechnology field and over a five-year span kept moving up through the ranks, from manager to senior manager to VP. The number of responsibilities, choices, and decisions he made drastically increased. He had a lot of things coming at him and needed to make decisions quickly, but it became more and more difficult for him to make the best decisions. He had to learn what was most important, along with when to say yes and when to say no. He needed to develop new skills for dealing with a never-ending stream of demands.

Whether you've been promoted or are just trying to cope with the relentless pressures of the modern work environment, learning new ways to handle it all will help you achieve that important balance. The place to start is with yourself and the way you think about the demands on you.

Balancing act

Below are four ideas for bringing your work and life into balance by changing your attitudes about what you can, and should, accomplish at work.

1. **Do not please everyone.** The underlying goal of many executives is to please everyone in an effort to be perceived as doing a good job. This desire, along with overcompensation, causes you to be ineffective in work-life balance and managing your time effectively.

People who are really good at pleasing everyone don't say no to anything being given to them. They don't want to be critical or to challenge a paradigm that is being presented by either a boss or superior. What happens is that they become stuck in a place where they say yes to everything without giving consideration to what is most important or what is the best use of their time. If you try to please everyone, the one person who doesn't get pleased is you! You can't be placed second while someone else at work is always placed first. Instead, take care of yourself first and foremost.

2. **Be true to yourself.** Many executives think they get respect from others inside the company by how much they do and how well they do it. However, a very important determinant of respect is integrity, and integrity requires being true to yourself. To do that, you must know what your truth is. What is yours? When you have too great a workload, isn't your truth to try and rebalance it? When you have too many things going on and too many projects, isn't it your job to delegate more? There is a truth that always exists within your work life: the need to do what is right for you, not what is right for the company. Yes, you must often do what the company wants you to do, but not to such a degree that you get lost within that paradigm. It's important to know your truth and be able to take a stand on what you need to do to be true to yourself.

3. **Set high boundaries.** In order to set high boundaries, you need to know what you are willing to say yes to and what you are willing to say no to in the areas of work-life balance. For example, have you set boundaries that you will never work through lunch, not work past a certain time, not get to the office before a certain time, and take time for lunch every day? Do you know what your

BRING/P.6

'I earn big bucks but don't like my job'

By Josie O. Santamaria

ASK YOUR CAREER COUNSELOR

I GRADUATED last 2001 with a degree in AB Psychology in one of the prestigious schools in Quezon City. I was very active in extracurricular activities back then, which involved teaching English and Math to public school children and facilitating the giving of high school scholarships to those who excel.

When I graduated, I got a job as a human resources assistant for a retail company. I worked there for one year and four months and got disillusioned with human resources since I saw it as menial, administrative and clerical. Then, I worked at a small consulting firm on a per project basis. I liked the work because it involved research and exposure to government, NGOs and other institutions related to developmental issues at the national and local levels. But that was just a short stint, since it was project-based.

I am the eldest in our family, with five siblings after me. My dad is a pre-need agent and he doesn't earn much with his commission. It means that I also need to be the breadwinner. Faced with such a predicament, I turned to a call center company. Right now, I am working as a customer service representative at a call center in Makati. With the salary, I am able to send my siblings to school, pay for bills and groceries, pay my debts, and try to save a little. Right now, practicality is my priority.

However, I feel like I'm stuck. I'm afraid to get out of the call center industry because I don't think I'll get another job that will pay me as much. I don't like the job, though I don't have a choice. What can I do? Thank you for your help.

Stuck

From your letter, it is obvious that what you want in a job are two things: the job must fit your career interests and meet your financial needs. From your extracurricular activities and work experiences, you have learned what you like in a job and what you don't, and, therefore, you have an idea of your work interests and preferences.

There are at least four things you can do now.

1. **Clarify your career interest.** Money and promotion follow when you do something in an excellent way consistently. Try to go about this activity of exploring your career interests in a systematic way. You can do this in three ways:

- Take time to do some creative visualization. Close your eyes and let your mind wander to a time five years from now. What kind of work do you see yourself enjoy doing? Where is the setting (classroom, corporate, government, etc.)? This is your "dream job."
- List down your work experiences and draw two columns. In one column, write down what you en-

IEARN/P.6

POEA releases list of prequalified applicants for jobs in Korea

By Regina Galang Reyes

PHILIPPINE Overseas Employment Administration (POEA) Deputy Administrator Carmelita Dimzon announced that POEA has already selected 6,000 applicants to prequalify for jobs in Korea under the Korea Employment Permit system in an interview over "My Trabaho at dzRH" last week. The selection was made from among 186,000 applicants who submitted their resumes and requirements to POEA from May 14 to July 13 for job vacancies in Korea. The shortlist was based on criteria sent by the Korean government.

Dimzon also announced that a group of 100 workers will be deployed to Korea this September as a pilot group. These workers are to be hired in the manufacturing sector. The selected applicants are currently undergoing comprehensive medical examinations to fully qualify for the vacant positions in Korea. This group is in addition to the initial quota of 6,000 allocated by the South Korean Ministry of Labor for the Philippines. Dimzon explains that this pilot group is considered a test run to determine whether the Philippine government will be able to deliver the required number of workers to Korea who can work in accordance with the performance standards of Korean companies.

According to Dimzon, those in the shortlist of 6,000 applicants still have to be screened by the Korean companies who are looking for workers. "There may be additional requirements from the Korean company." She mentioned that many of the job openings are in the manufacturing sector in Korea, mostly electronic and cell phone companies.

Dimzon says that the salary being offered by the Korean companies for the workers can range from $800 to $1,250 US dollars per month. But employees would have to pay for their housing, food and other expenses. Selected applicants would also have to shoulder the cost of their travel. However, Dimzon says, "The applicant will be able to save on costs because there is no placement fee since this is a government to government arrangement." She also says that the workers will also be assured that whatever salary is promised in the contract, that is what they will receive when they get to Korea. Dimzon also explained that the rights of Filipino workers deployed to Korea would be protected under Korean laws.

Dimzon said that the initial contract for those hired will be for one year. This shall be renewed for a maximum of three years

POEA/P.6

What's inside

Interview tips to bag the job p. 4

Cat-and-mouse game

By Teresa R. Tunay, OCDS

YOU know there's something not quite right in a workplace when the prevalent mentality is "When the cat is away, the mouse will play." The small fry's rejoicing when the boss is absent could mean 1) the boss is seen as a slave driver (even life threatening, like a cat to a mouse); or 2) the employees are sycophants. You'll be surprised how many of our workplaces—and not just government offices, mind you—are tacitly ruled by this axiom, and how a little slogan said in jest among coworkers could get to spread its poison beyond the walls of the workplace. In the home front it could mean extramarital affairs. At the marketplace, rigged weighing scales. In schools, cheating at exams. In the Church, abusive shepherds. In public service, election frauds.

"When the cat is away, the mouse will play" is not a harmless saying—it is a godless dictum made cute and excusable by its cat-mouse imagery. It says it's socially acceptable to steal, cheat or lie, and it seems Filipinos are fast gaining a global reputation for being such clever mice. A certain establishment in Okinawa, Japan, once banned Filipinos from its premises because they discovered so many 25-centavo Philippine coins were used instead of tokens at the telephone booths. Not a very nice thing to hear about a people otherwise known for having stopped tanks at a *coup d'état* attempt, but there it was—reality staring us in the face.

True followers of Christ have self-discipline—they do not take their faith as a cat-and-mouse game. (*E-mail the author at* teresa_de_manila@yahoo.com)

REFLECTIONS FOR THE WORKING SOUL

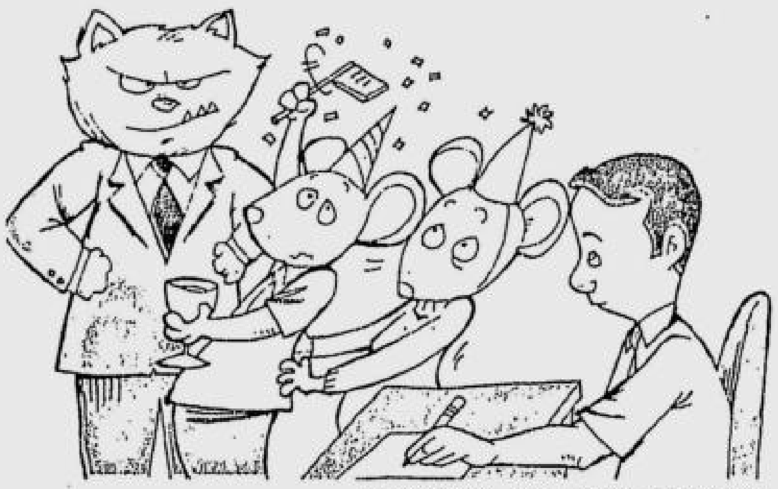

ILLUSTRATION BY ALBERT RODRIGUEZ

Gospel. Lk. 12: 32-48

"Gird your loins and light your lamps and be like servants who await their master's return from a wedding, ready to open immediately when he comes and knocks. Blessed are those servants whom the master finds vigilant on his arrival... "

Rewards for a servant

By Bishop Precioso D. Cantillas, SDB,DD

ONE of the things that would make the day of an employer or a supervisor is seeing all the workers in action—awake and alive in their respective workstations. A slothful worker or employee is a real pain in the neck for the employer. Good labor relations flourish in a company where each one, from the company president down to the last employee, is vigilant against laziness and does the job with total dedication and enthusiasm. An industrious worker will certainly expect some rewards for his conscientious and diligent toil, while an indolent one will somehow, someday, reap sour fruits for his laziness.

The reward for a diligent and dedicated worker does not come only in this life but also in the life after. The earthly masters—employers—may be generous enough in giving good salaries and abundant benefits, yet, these material rewards could not sufficiently equal the amount of service the human worker provides. Human work involves more than just physical energies; it also employs the emotional and spiritual faculties of the worker. In fact, studies show that money and material benefits are not sufficient "motivators" and "satisfiers" for most workers.

The greater incentive for working attentively and assiduously is the thought of the heavenly reward, which will surely be enjoyed when the time of reckoning comes. The heavenly Master will fully repay the workers who are like "vigilant servants," whose love for the Master is shown through the conscientious performance of their daily work. (*E-mail the author at* mfvg@skyinet.net)

sunday INQUIRER
August 8, 2004

This former registered nurse from Bobon, Samar, has come a long way to becoming the hippest young party designer of the moment. But there's more than just glamor to the job, he says, and much more room to grow

Dennis Lustico

Th[illegible] is [illegible]ing But Not to the US[illegible]

In his Makati atelier with some choice creations (left to right): the 'Troy' dress of raw silk and silk chiffon, a beaded '60s-inspired crepe number, and a piña, cotton and linen gown

By Alya B. Honasan
Photograph by Romy Homillada

IT is a horror story that still stands out in designer Dennis Lustico's memory. "And it was all my fault," he states matter-of-factly. A client had ordered a gown for her daughter's prom in the United States a year before the event, a crocheted number. "I gave the crocheting job to a supplier, and months passed, until the time the family was almost leaving for the States, and the gown wasn't finished yet!"

Lustico learned that his supplier in Novaliches had not been doing the work, but it was still the designer who was held accountable. "They eventually got to bring the gown," sighs Lustico, "but I was so embarrassed I couldn't ask for payment. I knew the stress I put them through." What did he learn from that? "I learned to work early!" he says with a laugh. "The problem with some of us designers is that we procrastinate. But I won't forget that experience, ever. That was three years ago. It never happened again, *sa awa ng Diyos*."

We're talking about horror stories and learnings, because we're talking about how things have changed for Lustico, former rural boy from Bobon, Northern Samar who is now the hottest designer of party clothes in town. Indeed, the 34-year-old registered nurse with the shy smile and refreshing lack of the diva attitude so prevalent in the glamorous fashion in-

To page 6

Si[illegible] Shelters the Homeless to Find Her Daughter
[illegible] Fl[illegible] delos Santos, p.[illegible]

Making a Big Splash On Her Way to Harvard
by [illegible]renzo Z. Manguiat, p.5

First Person

By Divina C. Paredes

Please Leave Home Without It

What you leave behind is as important as what you take with you to your new home, says this writer who migrated to New Zealand more than three years ago

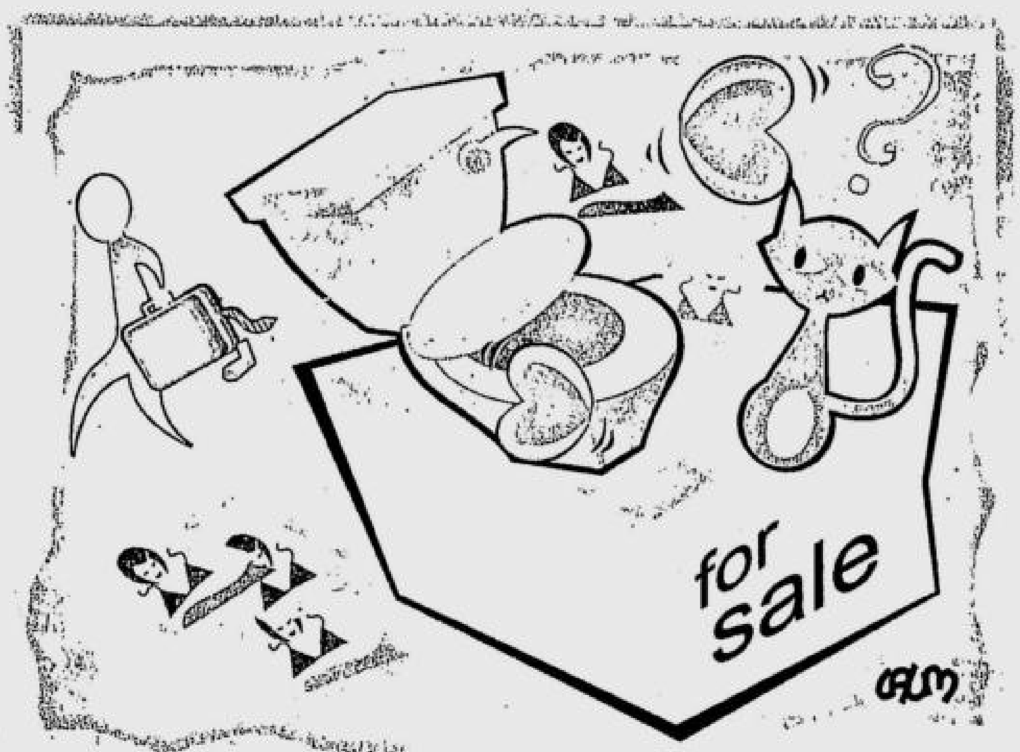

Illustration by LA MISTADES

EVERY once in a while, I would receive an e-mail from a friend saying that they, too, would like to embark on that great adventure that I took more than three years ago: that is, moving to a foreign country for good.

They would often ask: What should they bring to their new home?

If they are moving to New Zealand, my advice is simple. Bring lots and lots of walking shoes, jogging pants and sweatshirts because the laidback lifestyle here guarantees that they will practically live in these outfits. Oh, and don't forget, I tell them, pack your favorite family photos and at least one valuable item that would remind you of home, or make you feel good. (Mine were watercolor paintings by Araceli Dans and architect Joven Ignacio, which the two gave me at a *despedida* luncheon. They now grace the walls of my humble apartment).

These days, I am tempted to amend my pointers to include an appeal to our *kababayans* to put as much importance to what they would—and should—leave behind. Well, not that they would fit into their luggage anyway. I'm referring to the values, attitudes, beliefs and prejudices that are best relegated to the dustbin of history.

Foremost is their view about work, both paid and domestic chores. When one arrives in a foreign country, often the first thing to worry about is finding a place for the family to settle in. The next, which is the tricky part unless you've brought with you a sizeable nest egg, is finding a job.

One of the things an immigrant learns sadly—particularly in New Zealand—is that a number of employers would demand "local experience" from jobseekers. But how can one have that experience if you've just arrived in your new country? The solution is to take on jobs that would offer that much-vaunted "local experience," which may not be in any way related to the profession you practiced back home. The work may even be unpaid, like volunteering in nonprofit organizations, schools and libraries. What is essential is to keep an open mind. Forget about image, *pogi* or *ganda* points and teasing from *kababayan* from back home who may not know the realities about living in a foreign land, having been in foreign shores only as tourists. They won't help you pay the rent and groceries—so their opinions don't matter. What is important, nay, an imperative, is to prove to employers that you can adjust to your new surroundings, and yes, can speak and understand English very well.

Top tier schools

For those who like to brandish that they have graduated in the so-called top tier schools in the Philippines, those diplomas don't matter to employers who are not familiar with the Philippine educational system. In fact, they may not even recognize those credentials (despite your rolling Rs) and suggest you take additional courses—degree or short-term courses—to be able to practice your profession. Heartbreaking and ego busting, yes, but that is the reality most professionals face when they move to Western countries.

Household work is also one area where one's perspectives should change. The bottomline is, you have to do these yourself. There's no household help to do your bidding. Even if you are an executive back home, you will have to take out the garbage, wash the dishes, mow the lawn, launder your clothes and fold them, and yes, help your spouse or partner with childcare. Hired help is simply out of reach for most households. And don't expect the wife to take care of running the household as is the norm in the Philippines. Helping out does not mean you are *ander de saya* (henpecked). Jokes of this genre are simply out of sync with what is happening in households in modern societies. Here, it means you are a responsible and caring partner.

The payback for all these? Believe me, it brings the family or the couple together, and the children become more responsible because they have no one to depend on or delegate tasks to. You know exactly what your child ate through the day or will eat in the next few days because you did everything—planning, buying and preparing their food. In my case, I have unearthed my dormant cooking skills as I could not ask my mother or sisters—all superb cooks—to be my culinary saviors as they had been in the Philippines.

Not tedious

Fortunately, I've discovered that doing household chores in developed countries isn't that tedious. For one, there is always the assurance of water—hot or cold—coming out of the taps. One need not get up at ungodly hours to watch the taps come to life. Second, brownouts or power outages are rare, if at all. Telephones and the Internet make such time-consuming and stressful tasks as paying the bills, buying groceries or dealing with government agencies a breeze. Transport services run like clockwork (well, almost) so you know what time you'll get home from work, and plan accordingly.

Most migrant Filipinos find out the hard way how Western folk place a premium on privacy, and how they do not share our passion for risqué, homophobic and sexist jokes. For instance, it is rude to ask another person how much he or she earns, how much their house is or what its monthly amortization is. While it may be fine back in the old country to ask these questions, in most Western countries bringing them up would most likely merit a retort that it's none of their bloody business.

Quaint trait

Another quaint trait of most Filipinos is their innate curiosity about another person's domestic arrangement, even if they've just met that person. It is considered rude to ask if somebody has a partner, or if he or she is in a relationship with his or her companion, or what their living arrangement is. Most often, upon learning that a person has just divorced or separated, Filipinos eagerly ask about details, even salacious ones. If one is single, they're bound to ask probing questions with the zeal of an investigative journalist. A couple of women, both single and in their thirties, once lamented how they've always had to endure the tactless comments of fellow Filipinos who harp on their being "old maids," or who advise them, brazenly, to "just live it up and have different partners."

Not surprisingly, new migrants are always jolted or taken aback when, after asking inquisitive questions of fellow *kababayans*, they are snubbed or told to their face: "I beg your pardon? That is a private matter." They definitely had it coming.

When I first arrived in New Zealand, I noticed that some of the names of roads, suburbs and lakes would have a double entendre meaning to Filipinos. Consider these: Pupuke, Papatoetoe, Titirangi, Pukekohe. A Philippine comedian who visited this country several years ago made fun of these names and had the audience laughing. Well, not all. As one member of the audience recalled, a young boy who had accompanied his father to the concert was perplexed at why the audience thought this play on words was funny. Indeed, how would you feel if a foreign comedian made fun of Philippine words and customs? I am sure Filipinos would say it is racism, and start a letter or e-mail campaign to the editor. Yet, we sometimes fail to see how we ourselves can be racist and close-minded when viewing other cultures.

Risque songs

Another Filipino singer who was big in the '70s and is now on the comeback trail also unleashed his trite risqué songs and sexist jokes when he visited Auckland several years ago. Again, folk of a certain age lapped up his sexist jokes. But not the younger generation of Filipinos who grew up in New Zealand and know that it is not kosher to make fun of women as sex objects and to laugh at those not blessed with good looks. When I heard this story from a Filipino who attended the concert (which was packed, by the way), I felt sorry that a nation that supposedly showed the world about People Power is still stuck to the kind of humor that is already banned in workplaces and mainstream media in Western societies. I remember how, in one TV show I watched sometime back in Manila, a mayor cum politician (who recently got embroiled in a scandal involving an ex-presidential daughter) is shown peering under the skirt of a buxom woman, all as a joke of course. This is funny? And from an elected official at that!

The same is true with how majority of Filipinos make fun of people with homely looks or are differently-abled. I recently borrowed the VCD of a film about the friendship of three Filipinas that focused on the lead actress' angular features for laughs. It was supposed to be a comedy, but I hardly found humor in it. Before I left Manila, I happened to watch this game show on government television that showed a comedian (later elected as a local official) parodying his co-host by pretending to interpret her spiel in sign language; in effect making fun not only of the actress but the hearing-impaired community.

In my three years as a New Zealand resident, I have yet to encounter anything on radio, television or film that made fun of the differently-abled. Instead, I witnessed an understanding of their plight, and an effort to develop programs for them and their families.

True, it's not easy to let go of a lifetime's worth of values, habits and attitudes. But if one were to take that great leap into the unknown, it would do well to remember that traveling light is the key to moving forward at a faster clip. By letting go of one's excess baggage, they are well on their way to striding along with other citizens of the world. Q

Sunday Inquirer Magazine August 8, 2004
Vol. 18 No. 23 ISSN 0116 - 232X

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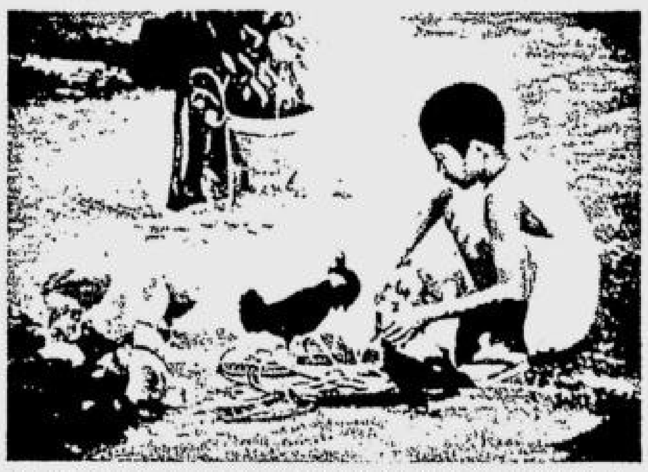


BEAUTIFUL AQUARELLES The 21st Kulay sa Tubig Annual Invitational Watercolor Competition-Exhibition opens on Aug. 14 at Gallery Genesis, 4/L of SM Megamall A. Five winners and five runners-up will be chosen from among 70 leading contemporary Filipino artists on opening day. Exhibit runs until Aug. 29. In photo is "Farm Boy" by Marvin Rodriguez. *For more of This Week, see page 7*

Piano

"Keep your fingers close to the keys,"
You used to say,
As my hands wandered over the piano,
Falling onto each key
As you pinned and unpinned my fingers
To the ivory bars with unequal gravity.

It was like this every week,
As I would follow your lead,
Easing sound from each key
With the weight and blood of my fingertips
While my gaze sometimes wandered
Towards the piano cover
Where the Madonna and child sculpture stood.
Their eyes gazed back
As the hands of the clock above us
Ticked away.

Yet, after I left this town,
I had to be taught again.
I had to learn to be supple—
To pull the sound out of the instrument
With every delicate, practiced lift of a finger,
Or to push it down
Into the depths of the wood
By pushing one's weight onto the fingertip
And into the cold ivory.

That may be the reason why
We grope to find a meeting place
Now that I am here once more,
Sitting in front of your piano.
I want to make the piano sing
By pulling its voice from out of itself,
While you
Want to take my hands
And press them on the keyboard
To make me feel its pulse.

I wish that I can make you understand
I cannot be a slave of your instrument anymore.

Yet, as I play,
I realize that I cannot part with it.
There is really no place
Where weight and pull
do not
meet.

Monica S. Macansantos

BREMEN · STADT DER LUFT- UND RAU
HAIL MARY THE QUEEN
CHILDREN'S CHOIR
PHILIPPINE DELEGATES TO:
3rd CHOIR OLYMPICS
BREMEN, GERMANY
JULY 8-18, 2004

The Hail Mary the Queen Children's Choir upon arrival at Bremen Airport

An Olympic Gold for the Philippines

SMART Supports Award-Winning Children's Choir

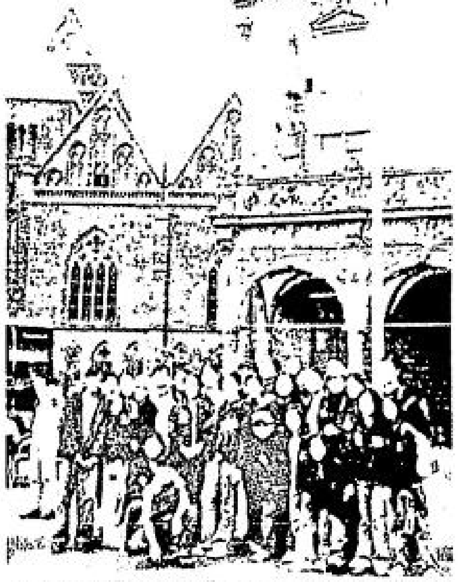
When they sing, it is as if angels have come down from heaven. That seems to be what any audience feels when listening to the voices of the Hail Mary the Queen Children's Choir. With ages ranging from nine to seventeen years old, the choir may seem inexperienced, but this same troupe recently brought honor to the Philippines by winning the coveted championship and gold medal from the 2004 Choir Olympics held in Bremen, Germany!

SMART Communications lauds the Hail Mary the Queen Children's Choir and was more than happy to sponsor the HMTQCC in two concerts that helped them prepare for international competition. The first concert, held in the Multi-purpose Hall of Xavier School, was held in November of 2003 and featured balladeer Jose Mari Chan with the choir. The Fil-Am Life Theater served as the venue for the Hail Mary the Queen Children's Choir's second major concert. As a result of these concerts, the group was able to raise funds for their trip while also honing their considerable talent.

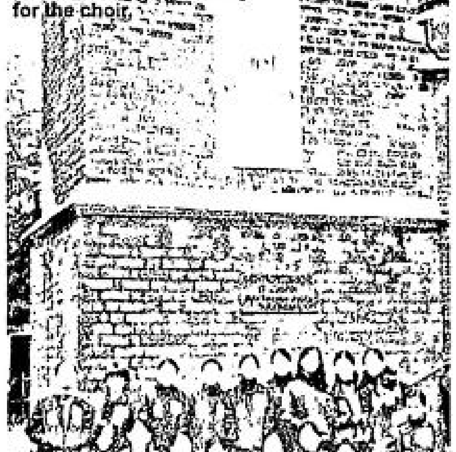
The Hail Mary the Queen Children's Choir was formed in May 2003 upon the merger of two previous choirs before it. Through the training of choirmasters Theresa Vizconde and Jude Roldan, the HMTQCC was trimmed down from a membership of 58 young boys and girls to a select group of twenty-six. The group had never before performed in international competition, were the smallest contingent, and the youngest choir to compete in the Music of the Religious category. Yet with a stunning rendition of Lucio San Pedro's Alelluya, Umawit Kang Masaya, Ampeo Shelo He-O, and Hosanna, the HMTQCC bested choral groups from Germany, Korea, Jamaica, and even defending champion Israel.

No less than Her Excellency Pres. Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo herself made a special request that the choir perform during a recent holy mass held in Malacañang Palace. After singing Ampeo Shelo He-O, the HMTQCC performed a composition specially written in the president's honor. SMART Communications is proud to have sponsored the Hail Mary the Queen Children's Choir as early as last year. This belief in the group's abilities and faith in their talent bore fruit not just with a gold medal-winning performance in Germany, but also in the development of these youngsters as people. We wish them even more success in the years to come.

Looking more like tourists than Choir Olympics participants taking on a look and see of Bremen's tourist spots.



In front of the St. Johann Church prior to mass exclusively for the choir.

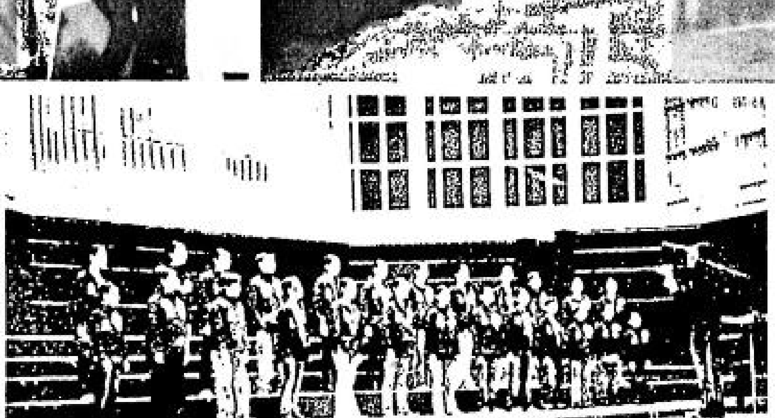


A triumphant homecoming at the Malacañang Palace with President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo.

The President greets [illegible] Head of SMART [illegible]

Euphoria breaking loose upon the announcement of the winners.

CHOIR OLYMPICS
BREMEN 2004



The Hail Mary the Queen Children's Choir practicing on stage, their repertoire for the competition.

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HAIL MARY THE QUEEN
CHILDREN'S CHOIR
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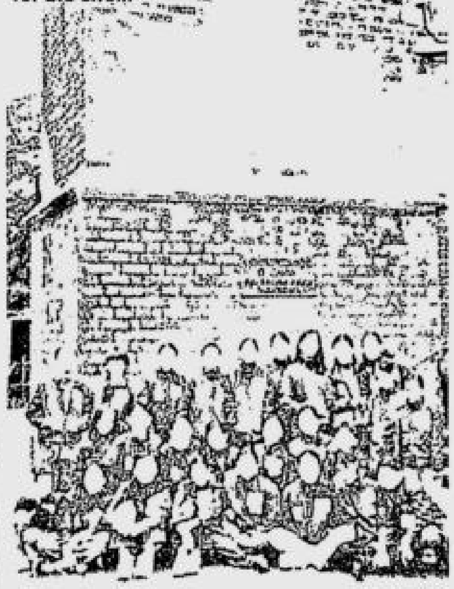

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CHOIR OLYMPICS
BREMEN 2004

Euphoria breaking loose upon the announcement of the winners.

The Hail Mary the Queen Children's Choir practicing on stage, their repertoire for the competition.

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Little Lives

By Edna Flor M. delos Santos
Photographs by Jim Gulao Punzalan

She Shelters the Homeless to find Her Daughter

Proud of her job. Bermas has been a laundrywoman for 59 years now

IF generosity is a religion, then Remedios Bermas is its evangelist, and her life its homily. And if mothers like Bermas are God's surrogate on earth, then the world is in good hands. Throughout most of her adult life, this 79-year-old laundry woman has lived a life of giving and sharing, nurturing several lives despite her limited means.

Nida Bermas, 44, and a *kagawad* (council member) in Barangay Valencia, Quezon City, describes her mother as the community's resident "Good Samaritan." Called "Mother" or *Nanay* by all and sundry for her maternal ways and personality, *Nanay* Meding has been known to give her last peso to a hungry stranger, help neighbors carry their heavy load, bring a pregnant woman to hospital in the middle of the night, keep watch over a neighbor's sick child, source out medicines for an ailing "*kabarangay*," accompany old people to the clinic, and lend deceased strangers space in her cemetery lot in San Juan.

But the centerpiece of her life's mission is opening her home to those needing shelter and a semblance of family life. That home used to be a shanty in the Madrigal Compound in Barangay Valencia until she moved to Montalban when the Quezon City property was sold by its owners. It was the same home that *Nanay* Meding shared with her five children and husband Vicente, now deceased. Four of her children are now married, but one remains missing and unheard of since she left home in 1994.

From an early age, Nida has seen her mother give up her sleeping space for virtual strangers and camp out instead on a table or a bench. *Nanay* Meding would share their simple meals with them and even wash their clothes. Nida initially resented these intrusions but held her peace because nobody else in their household seemed to mind their mother's generous gesture even if it shrunk their already cramped living quarters.

The first adoptee

It was in 1984 when *Nanay* Meding brought home her first adoptee. Sally used to be rich but lost her money through the duplicity of some people she hardly knew. Abandoned by her husband and only child, she was seriously ill with tuberculosis and needed love and medical care. Taking pity on Sally, *Nanay* Meding brought her home and later took her to the Quezon Institute (Q.I.) for proper medical attention.

Recalls Nida: "*Nanay* took care of Sally in the hospital like she were our relative. She was confined at Q.I. for several years but she eventually died. We buried her in our cemetery lot in San Juan."

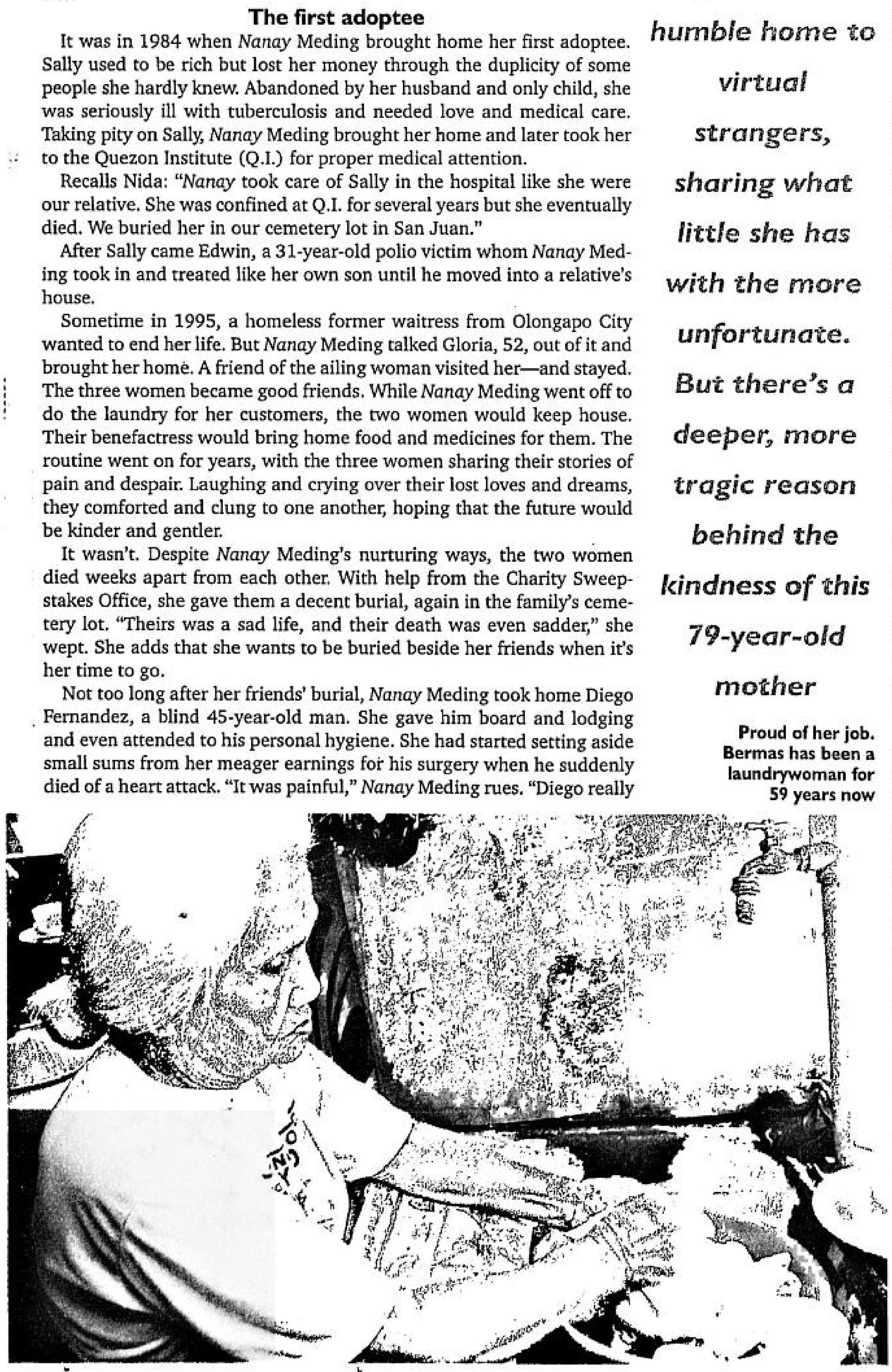
After Sally came Edwin, a 31-year-old polio victim whom *Nanay* Meding took in and treated like her own son until he moved into a relative's house.

Sometime in 1995, a homeless former waitress from Olongapo City wanted to end her life. But *Nanay* Meding talked Gloria, 52, out of it and brought her home. A friend of the ailing woman visited her—and stayed. The three women became good friends. While *Nanay* Meding went off to do the laundry for her customers, the two women would keep house. Their benefactress would bring home food and medicines for them. The routine went on for years, with the three women sharing their stories of pain and despair. Laughing and crying over their lost loves and dreams, they comforted and clung to one another, hoping that the future would be kinder and gentler.

It wasn't. Despite *Nanay* Meding's nurturing ways, the two women died weeks apart from each other. With help from the Charity Sweepstakes Office, she gave them a decent burial, again in the family's cemetery lot. "Theirs was a sad life, and their death was even sadder," she wept. She adds that she wants to be buried beside her friends when it's her time to go.

Not too long after her friends' burial, *Nanay* Meding took home Diego Fernandez, a blind 45-year-old man. She gave him board and lodging and even attended to his personal hygiene. She had started setting aside small sums from her meager earnings for his surgery when he suddenly died of a heart attack. "It was painful," *Nanay* Meding rues. "Diego really wanted to see again. I tried to help him, but he died."

> *For years, laundrywoman Remedios Bermas has opened her humble home to virtual strangers, sharing what little she has with the more unfortunate. But there's a deeper, more tragic reason behind the kindness of this 79-year-old mother*



After Diego came three former hospitality girls from Olongapo: Rose, 55; Fely, 62, and Mila, 43. The women share a 25-sqm. room that is more of a tent than a home. The roof is made of discarded canvas material, the walls are of plastic sheets and the flooring is a piece of plywood. When it rains, the roof leaks. Typhoons perennially threaten to drown the occupants as the river nearby overflows.

Tent as home

No matter. The leaky tent is now home to the three women who share a common history: poverty that drove them to work in bars; falling for American servicemen and bearing their children, and losing touch with their parents and siblings. Now they found both in *Nanay* Meding.

She remains unfazed by her growing brood. "Anyway, my hut can accommodate six persons," she says. "I tell them there is very little food in the house and that I eat vegetables most of the time because meat is so expensive. But we won't go hungry." Indeed, the group shares what little there is like family. Rose tends a vegetable garden for food, Fely chips in by cooking occasionally for acquaintances, while Mila cooks and sells native delicacies in the neighborhood.

But it is *Nanay* Meding who is substantively the breadwinner. Doing laundry from Monday to Thursday, she earns about a thousand pesos a week. It's a job she is justly proud of. "I have been washing clothes for 59 years now," she says. "I will continue to do this while I have the strength and there are households willing to hire me despite my age."

Life is simple enough. Since they have no electricity, the women make it a point to be in bed by 7 p.m. They draw their water from the neighborhood pump. For medicines, they turn to the clinic at Barangay Valencia. Vanity is the least of their concern. Not one of them has bought a new dress in years. If there is a particularly good show on TV, they go to a neighbor's house to watch it. But that is very rare. They'd rather listen to news and music through the small radio they got in a Jollibee promo.

To *Nanay* Meding, the best day of the week is Friday which she reserves for a Bible study session and a little dancing and singing with the other elderly at the Abiertas House of Friendship. Laughing, she says these activities pump energy into her veins.

Song and dance

Agrees Erlinda Eser, the coordinator of the Abiertas project. "You should see her dance with such grace and vitality. And how she sings!" Having heard *Nanay* Meding sing *kundimans* in a soprano voice that virtually reaches up to the doors of heaven, people tease the old woman about how, one of these days, St. Peter might file a complaint for having been deprived of sleep.

Her needs are very simple indeed. Asked what she'd like for a gift, *Nanay* Meding whispers shyly: "A soft mattress for a bed." All her life she has been sleeping either on a folding cot or on hard floors and this, she complains, has been giving her a backache.

Her sacrifices used to grate on her daughter Nida's nerves. "I kept telling her that she goes to great lengths to provide for the needs of virtual strangers when she herself does not have enough. When she is sick, she comes to me. Nobody seems to care for her."

But Nida has changed her views about her mother's sacrifices now that she is a council member, whose work revolves around providing assistance to her neighbors in the community. Now she understands the value and joy of helping those in need. Chuckling, she says, "The whole community now calls me the next Remedios Bermas. People say I got her genes. I'm very proud of my mother."

Small consolation

For *Nanay* Meding, filling up her shanty with voices of people she could care for is small consolation for that voice she misses most—that of her daughter Nelda. In 1994, Nelda, then 18, left home and never returned. She is closest to her heart, says this grieving mother. Not only was Nelda her youngest and prettiest daughter, she also suffered complications from meningitis that made her less than mentally competent. In that state, Nelda was raped in her teen years, a crime that was never brought to justice.

Now in tears, *Nanay* Meding relives the pain of seeing her darling daughter sprawled on a grassy lot, bloodied and violated. Police efforts did not yield any suspect and the case was conveniently forgotten. But that wound was nothing compared to the pain of losing her daughter.

"One morning, we woke up and Nelda was gone," she says. "We looked for her everywhere, but she had vanished. *Parang bula* (Like a soap bubble)." She adds: "When I hear of an unidentified corpse, Nida and I go off to check if it's Nelda. But I know in my heart my daughter is still alive."

Sobbing, *Nanay* Meding confesses," I want to see my daughter before I die. This is the reason I don't tire doing good for others, this is why I don't count the cost. I want to reap my reward someday—to see my daughter again. That is the only reward I want. Lord, have mercy on me. Give me back my daughter!"

For *Nanay* Meding's sake, one hopes that good deeds are indeed multiplied in the eyes of heaven and rewarded justly.

All in the Game

Making a Big Splash On Her Way to Harvard

First-time Olympic swimmer Jackie Pangilinan's Athens stint is a dream come true—and yet the Harvard-bound looker is just getting started

By Lorenzo Z. Manguiat

AN old Chinese proverb says that "the journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step." In the case of Jaclyn "Jackie" Pangilinan, her journey began with one stroke.

As the lone female swimmer representing the Philippines in the forthcoming Olympics, New Jersey-based Jackie would have traveled across three continents in a span of five months after her stint in Athens, Greece.

Born to a Filipino father and a second-generation Syrian mother, Jackie was born and raised in the United States. She was exposed to swimming early on at 7. Two years later, Jackie started competing and hasn't stopped since.

In July 2003, Jackie won the 100- and 200-meters Long Course Breaststroke event with Olympic qualifying times at the USA Junior National Championship in Woodland, Texas. While many swimmers may have dreamt of representing the United States, Jackie's father Florante instead cherished the dream that his talented daughter would one day represent his homeland in the Olympic Games.

Recounts Jackie in an e-mail interview: "My father then began looking at the possibility of me swimming for the Philippines. To our dismay, I did not qualify because the old immigration law prohibited me from being a dual citizen since my father was already an American citizen when I was born."

Fate's intervention

Fate intervened in September 2003 when Republic Act 9225 was passed. Under the new law, Filipinos born in the Philippines, who have acquired foreign citizenship, are allowed to regain their citizenship. They can likewise bequeath this citizenship to their children under 17.

In March 2004, the Bureau of Immigration finally issued the guidelines to the new law, and Florante and Jackie rushed to process their dual citizenship at the Philippine Consulate in New York City.

Even prior to being granted dual citizenship, Florante, a controller for advertising giant Saatchi & Saatchi, began communicating with Chito Rivera, secretary general of the Philippine Amateur Swimming Association (PASA), on the possibility of Jackie representing the Philippines in the Olympics.

Upon the invitation of PASA, Jackie was able to visit the Philippines and compete in a meet in San Pablo, Laguna in April 2004. "The dates of the meet coincided with my spring break and my dream to see my father's homeland and at the same time compete in Philippine waters became a reality," recounts the 5'7" Jackie. "I won the 50- and 100-meter breaststroke and the 200-meter IM (Individual Medley) events in this National Meet. I went back to New Jersey a week later with a great desire to come back, after having spent the best time of my life outside the United States," she adds.

Making the team

Although Jackie was granted dual citizenship and made the Olympic qualifying time, it was only when another Filipino swimmer, Jenny Guerrero, failed to participate in the Malaysian Open in June that Jackie formally became a part of the RP Team.

"My father respected Jenny Guerrero and didn't want to challenge her spot in the Philippine Olympic Team," says Jackie. "I was expecting Jenny Guerrero to be the Philippine representative but the results of the Malaysian Open showed her absence. My dad then formally applied to PASA on June 29, after informing the USA Swimming Association of my intent to be recognized as a Philippine swimmer in all subsequent USA Senior National events," reveals Jackie.

While every athlete's dream is to win the Olympic gold medal, Jackie has remained grounded about her chances in Athens. "I'm 10 seconds off the lead pack, so mining the gold, silver or bronze in Athens is not a very realistic goal. I'm hoping to get into the semi-finals, which would be equivalent to achieving no lower than 1.11 and 2.31 in the 100- and 200-meter breaststroke, respectively," says Jackie.

The most potential

PASA National Training Director Anthony Lozada nevertheless feels that among the five Filipinos swimming in Athens, Jackie has the most potential.

"Pangilinan is young, she's only 18 and this experience will help her a lot. She can dominate the SEA Games next year and who knows what she can do in Beijing (in the 2008 Olympics)," says Lozada.

Jackie's preparations for the Olympics have been grueling. She attended morning practice in a long course pool six days a week and afternoon workouts thrice a week. In between, she also lifted weights and did cross training every day, while attending spin class (stationary biking) two to three times a week.

As impressive as she is on the pool, Jackie is equally an achiever in the classroom. She recently graduated fourth in a class of 700 at Clifton High School in New Jersey and had a grade point average of 4.0.

After the Olympics, Jackie will embark on a new challenge as she enters Harvard University. While she is undecided on what course to take, she is leaning towards Economics.

Enjoying life

Despite her busy schedule, Jackie has managed to squeeze in time to enjoy life as a typical adolescent. "Swimming tends to take up most of my time, but I do pride myself on maintaining a good balance of 'work' and 'play' in my life," she says. "During my free time, I love going to the beach, hanging out with my friends, eating, going to the movies, and shopping." She is also a voracious reader, having been heavily influenced by her mother Audrey.

Jackie is also actively involved in socio-civic organizations such as the Key Club, which helped raise funds for the less fortunate, the Model UN and the New Americans Club, which help foreign-born students assimilate to high schools in the US.

For now, Jackie is focused on doing her best in Athens. "I feel so lucky to be given the opportunity to be a member of the Philippine Olympic Team, which I consider a great gift for being a new Filipina citizen. I also feel a great responsibility to represent the country well," she says.

One thing is certain: the country is as proud to have her.

Courtesy of Florante Pangilinan

Dennis

...from page 1

dustry has come a long way-from not knowing who Coco Chanel was, to wowing the judges at the Concours International des Jeunes Createurs de Mode in Paris in 2000, and today, to designing some of the most innovative and experimental outfits that Manila's high-profile fashionistas could dare to put on.

Case in point would be the dress he made for writer and trendsetter Celine Lopez for a Cartier party, a micromini called "Troy" made of beige raw silk, silk chiffon and what looks like yards of rope wrapped around the bodice. Not an outfit for the faint of heart, but certainly one that looks like no other in a sea of safe black shifts and suits.

More to learn

Lustico has no qualms about admitting that, despite a bumper-to-bumper client list, there is much more he would like to learn. There are plans to take courses in London, or simply to travel to soak up new ideas and inspirations. "I'm getting a little tired of the things I'm doing right now. I need a break, some self-improvement. You can get burned out." He still loves what he does, Lustico clarifies. "But right now, I can feel it—I've done all this before. I want to make something new to make me feel like I am still growing."

It was just a couple of years ago, in fact, that Lustico says he truly learned basic pattern making in a Young Designers Guild (YDG)-sponsored training session. "At least I'm starting now. When you know structure, you're more free, so you're not so concerned with so much embellishment." So is such embellishment a cop-out for designers who don't know any better? "It can be. Personally, I think every designer should learn to make patterns."

It's a discipline that would come in handy for many young designers today, Lustico says, himself included. "The designers now are more experimental, aggressive. But we do have to keep in mind that when we reach a certain level, there's a corresponding responsibility, a professionalism required. Until now, I don't think I've reached that level of awareness yet." Like every other newbie, Lustico admits that all he wanted at the beginning was "fame, fame, fame. But when you're already recognized, the people you talk to are different *na*. They want you to deliver. It's no longer a game. You have to be very serious. *Sige nga*, you got here, but can you give something more? Consistent *ba*? Do you have what it takes to stay? That's when you learn who the real designers are."

Ever grounded, Lustico admits he's "guilty" right now, "because my clients complain that I can't always deliver; I have very limited production capacity. Ideally, what you say is what you follow. I'm still in the process of absorbing that, working on discipline. What makes it doubly hard is that I'm dealing with people who know what they like. I have to prove myself." So is this what the boy from Bobon expected? He pauses. "It's a lot more than just art. There's a lot of pressure, but you thrive on the challenge."

Limited capacity notwithstanding, Lustico's list of clients boggles the mind; he's the one who has to say no when some party animals try to get him to turn out two grand outfits a week. "I'm sorry, I can't!" he shrieks. He doesn't mind the party designer label—"If it means being young and hip, then that makes me feel young and hip, too. Besides, I love designing for women. You really have so much freedom." The irony, though, is that Lustico himself is not much of a party animal. "I can only relate in terms of the boldness of the design. I don't like people to keep seeing the same things from me; I hate boring forms and shapes."

Freedom and fashion

Not bad for someone who never sketched a design until he was in high school. Lustico was born and raised by the sea, the son of a lumber businessman and a schoolteacher, and the eldest of three boys. "It was a happy childhood. Yes, I rode carabaos. No, I didn't play with dolls," Lustico says, laughing. Although his grandfather and uncle were both tailors, Lustico had no inkling he would get into arts and design until he met classmate and fellow future designer Sylver Custorio at St. Michael Academy in Catarman. "Sylver had cousins in New York, so he had an idea of what fashion was. The first time I saw his sketches, I thought, 'How beautiful!'" Thus began sketching sessions at the back of the class during practical arts. That was about the same time he came out to his family, for the sake of "freedom," Lustico says—that favorite "F" word again. "They weren't upset at all. Well, it was pretty obvious, and I'm sure my mother knew a long time before that."

Lustico did not pursue the design inclination at once, however, opting instead to take up nursing at Centro Escolar University in the usual route that was meant to lead to medicine and a possible job abroad. "Besides, I liked wearing white—stupid, *no*? But when I was in third year, I realized I really didn't like it. I remember telling my parents—I was drunk and crying at that time." But since he only had a year to go, Lustico finished the course and passed the board exam. After graduation, in 1991, he applied simultaneously for two jobs, one in a hospital and another in a boutique, for a job as in-house designer that was soon to be vacated by a friend who was leaving for the Middle East. "The boutique hired me first, so this was meant to be."

Lustico's rise was not that of an instant design star. He did time at the boutique, which was located in Binondo and served a "colorful" Chinese clientele. He moved to a uniform-making company in Makati, where he learned a lot about structure, and later spent a year at Bergamo, where he got a lot of good training. His first official show was a launch for an RTW line in Glorietta, where he was making clothes "to the tune of Jackie O and Audrey Hepburn." Things really got moving when Custorio, who is now based in Dubai, recruited his provincemate into the YDG. There, although he counts no one designer in particular as a mentor, Lustico met and learned from his fellow designers. "Every now and then, when I have questions, I ask them."

From the Fashionwatch holiday collection, 1998

Designer Inno Sotto, a close and respected friend of Lustico's, considers him one of the "brightest stars" among this generation of designers. "He doesn't rely too much on tricks," Sotto says. "He has theory. His designs are well thought out, and don't just call attention to themselves. He doesn't play safe, and is always in the moment—not behind at all, not too far ahead that people don't get it. And that's very important."

Parisian prize

In 1999 and 2000, Lustico was sent by the YDG to Paris. Both years he was in the top five, and both years he took home the Prix D'Incitation or incentive prize for the best entry from a particular country chosen by judges. In 2000, his unanimously chosen winning design was a hoodie ensemble made of yarn, wood and rice stalks. "I really wanted to win," Lustico says, but he found consolation in comments that his talent was genuine because he was consistent, as proven by the consecutive victories.

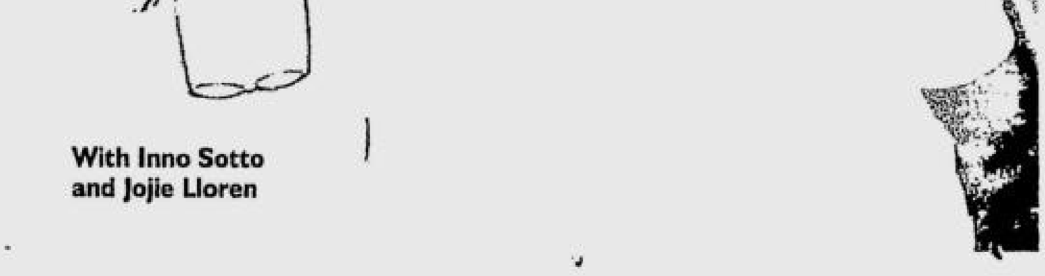
Nowadays, Lustico is also in-house designer for Rustan's, handling the U Nights party line since 2002. He spends mornings doing patterns and going to Rustan's, and afternoons meeting clients in his little Makati atelier. There are clients who tell him to do whatever he wants, and there are those who say, "Dennis, I'm a *ninang*, I want this color, and I want it to be flowing." What if what the client wants doesn't fit her? "I will tell you honestly that these colors go with this skin tone, these silhouettes with this build, this neck cuts with this face shape. People listen *naman*, surprisingly," he laughs again.

A 'regular rural boy' growing up in Northern Samar

"My clients are the clients of other designers, I'm just the new kid they're trying out," Lustico says. With clients he knows well, like his virtual muse and good friend Celine Lopez, he is able to make room for surprises. "I like things that change along the process." He developed his style, Lustico says, "from the company I keep. I'm just lucky, my circle is known for their taste and their being discriminating. That's how I kept from becoming *baduy* (tacky)." Ironically, he doesn't like wearing his own designs, preferring to buy clothes from Rustan's or his fellow designers. "I'm basically a T-shirt person."

Photographs courtesy of Dennis Lustico

With (left to right) fellow designers Jojie Lloren, Yvonne Quisumbing and Reian Mata in Paris, 2000



With Inno Sotto and Jojie Lloren

Most at home

Lustico feels most at home, however, in the water; he swims three times a week at the nearby YMCA to get in shape and escapes to Boracay every chance he gets, which explains the perpetual tan. His entire family is still in Samar—his brother runs a sari-sari store—and he visits every Christmas, if they don't come and visit him in Manila. Back there, he is not a famous designer, although his mother likes to show him off to friends whenever he's home. "It makes me feel uncomfortable, because you end up acting differently. But I know my parents are proud of me."

Downtime means going out of town, drinking or playing mahjong with close friends in the industry like fellow designer Jojie Lloren, makeup artist Patrick Rosas, fashion show director Ariel Lozada, and their "mother" Inno Sotto. But Lustico also enjoys being alone, reading books and listening to music. No, he's not in a relationship right now. "It's not that I have no time for love, but the effect on me isn't so good. I can't concentrate! I have too much to do to be disturbed by another entity, so *huwag na lang*. I don't get lonely, though, because I have my friends."

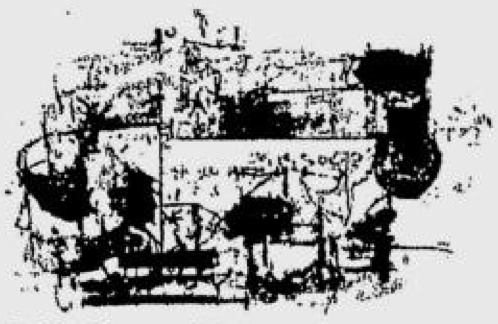
For Lustico, a good designer must have "courage, in terms of design. The client will always say, show me something different. It's hard to come up with something new, because we're all working on the same plane." There are plans to open his own shop, but that's far and away. "Right now, I'm just thinking of studying. There are so many things a designer should know. In fashion, the learning never ends."

This Week

Art

Circumstance features large-scale non-representational works by Edwin Jumalon, until Aug. 22 at Pasilyo Guillermo Tolentino, Cultural Center of the Philippines.

Numerus, Latin word for number, is the theme of the latest solo exhibit of Bobby Nuestro at The Drawing Room, G/F, Metrostar Building, 1007, Metropolitan Avenue, Makati City until Aug. 23.



Bobby Nuestro's latest work is on view at The Drawing Room

Transient Body, an exhibit of installation pieces and several paintings by Ronald Anading at Mag:net Gallery QC, The Loop ELJ Center, ABS-CBN Compound until Aug. 24.

Cinema

UP Film Institute screenings for August: "Y Tu Mama Tambien" (Aug. 9, 4 and 7 p.m.); "Insiang" (Aug. 11, 10 a.m., 2 and 5 p.m.); "Lilies" (Aug. 12, 7 p.m.); "Five Senses" (Aug. 13, 4 p.m.); "Crème glacée, chocolat et autres consolations" (Aug. 13, 7 p.m.); "Amores Perros" (Aug. 16, 4 and 7 p.m.); "Taking Lives" (Aug. 17, 4 and 7 p.m.); "Dr. Bethune: The Making of a Hero" (Aug. 18, 4 p.m.); "Five Senses" (Aug. 18, 7 p.m.); "New Waterford Girl" (Aug. 20, 7 p.m.); "El crimen del Padre Amaro" (Aug. 23, 4 and 7 p.m.); "Twisted" (Aug. 24, 4 and 7 p.m.); "Bayani/The Survivor and the Disenchanted" (Aug. 25, 3 and 6 p.m.); "Angel Eyes" (Aug. 26, 7 p.m.); "Lucia" (Aug. 31, 4 and 7 p.m.). For details, call 926-3640

Onstage

Due to insistent public demand, Koiné Theater Foundation is restaging the hit play, **Subtext** (1st Prize Don Carlos Palanca Awards for Literature 2002, written by Niel De Mesa) on Aug. 13, 14, 20, 21, 27 and 28, 7:30 p.m. at The Quickstep Studio, 2/F Forab Building, 121 Kamuning Road. Call 410-4485 for ticket reservations.

Gantimpala Theater Foundation presents ***Kanser***, based from Jose Rizal's "Noli Me Tangere, on Aug. 8 (9 a.m., 12, p.m. and 3 p.m. at the AFP Theater); Aug. 13 to 15 (10 a.m. and 2 p.m. at St. Cecilia's Hall, St. Scholastica's College, Manila); Aug. 20 and 21 (10 a.m. and 2 p.m. at the RFC Cinema, Las Piñas City), and Aug. 27 and 28 (10 a.m. and 2 p.m. at Cabuyao Arts Center, Laguna). For details, call 536-5860.

Tanghalang Pilipino presents the Filipino premiere of Lonnie Carter's 2003 Obie Award winner, ***Ang Romansa ni* Magno Rubio**, the bittersweet tale of a lonely, illiterate Filipino farm worker who falls in love with an American woman he has never seen and knows only through the pen pal section of a lonely hearts magazine. The play opens at the CCP Tanghalang Aurelio Tolentino on Aug. 13 and runs until Aug. 29 with 3 p.m. matinees on Saturdays and Sundays and evening performances at 8 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays. For details, call 832-3661 or 831125 loc. 1620 / 1621.

Atbp

Filipinas Heritage Library hosts **The Eye of Writing: Poetry Workshop for Beginners** on Aug. 11, 18, 25 and Sept. 1 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. to be facilitated by Paolo Manalo. Workshop fee is P1,700 inclusive of handouts and certificates. For details, call 892-1801.

Sotheby's has organized a **series of lectures** this month to provide the public with more information on paintings in the Southeast Asian art market and how to participate in the auction. Lecturers will be UP Arts History Professor Santiago Pilar, UAP lecturer Yael Buencamino and art restorer Helmuth Zotter. Schedules are as follows: Aug. 10—"Juan Luna: Important International Painter"; Aug. 12—"Philippine Art: An Overview"; Aug. 17 and 24—"Care of Paintings"; Aug. 26—"20th Century Vietnamese Paintings." Sotheby's Philippine Representative Kim Camacho will talk on how one can buy at auctions and what one must do before bidding, how to bid, and what happens after one wins a bid. All lectures start at 6 p.m. For details and reservations, call 884-8241 to 43.

New Day Publishers, a pioneer Filipiniana and religious publishing house, is offering up to 50 percent discount on a wide array of titles at the **Manila International Book Fair** to be held at the World Trade Center from August 11 to 15. Bookworms can choose from a variety of scholastic books on Philippine history, ethnology, child psychology, religion, and organizational development written by eminent personalities. Look for New Day Publishers booth no. 159 to 160 (near the main entrance) or call 928-8046 and 927-5982.

Trumpets Playshop begins its all-new round of weekend workshops until Nov. 27. Classes offered are Children's Theater (3-6 years old), Children's Musical Theater (7-12 years old), Musical Theater for Teens and Adults (13 years old and above), Streetdancing, Trumpets' Musicademy (one-on-one voice lessons), and Public Speaking and Hosting for Professionals. Enrolment is extended until Aug. 14. Call 636-2842 or 633-5010.

Meeting Points International presents **Math of Sales Management workshop** on Aug. 19-20 at Dusit Hotel Nikko. The seminar is an enhancement program that will introduce a wide range of mathematical ideas and analytical tools leading to appreciation of its relationship and application in the real world. For inquiries, call 895-2391 and 895-2363.

Mensa Philippines, the local chapter of the international high-IQ society Mensa, will hold its fifth testing session on August 21 at the Private Room, Oakwood Premier, Ayala Center, 6/F, Glorietta 4, Ayala Center, Makati City. Test-takers can take the exam anytime between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. They are required to bring a valid ID and a test fee of P400. Undergraduate students with valid student IDs will be given a discounted rate of P150. More information about Mensa is available at the website: <http://ph.mensa.org/qualify.html> http://pilipinas.mensa.org. Interested parties are advised to pre-register for the test at the said website. Questions may also be sent via email to: testing@ph.mensa.org. For those who may not have access to the Internet, you may call Dr. Jesy Gutierrez at 927-6956 during office hours.

Gantimpala Theater Foundation stages "*Kanser*" at various venues in August

Nicktoons together with Frederator Studios and Animation Magazine present **The Nicktoons Film Festival** which will showcase the diversity of independent cartoon filmmaking by animators from around the globe. Entry forms can be downloaded on www.nicktoons.com and entries will be accepted until Sept. 10. Submissions should be animated shorts no longer than 7 minutes that combine a unique look, great character designs and a funny plot. One winner will be chosen by a grand jury and awarded a $10,000 prize.

The Philippine Association of National Advertisers Foundation will host **The Truth in Political Advertising Forum 2** to be held at AIM Conference Center, Benavidez corner Trasierra Sts., Legaspi Village, Makati City on Aug. 17 from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Forum 2 is envisioned to be a discussion on the specific actions that should be done as a response to the proliferation of derogatory political advertisements. Participation fee is P700 per head, inclusive of materials and meals. For inquiries and reservations, call Lani at 894-1515 or 894-0012.

For this week's bands and schedules call:

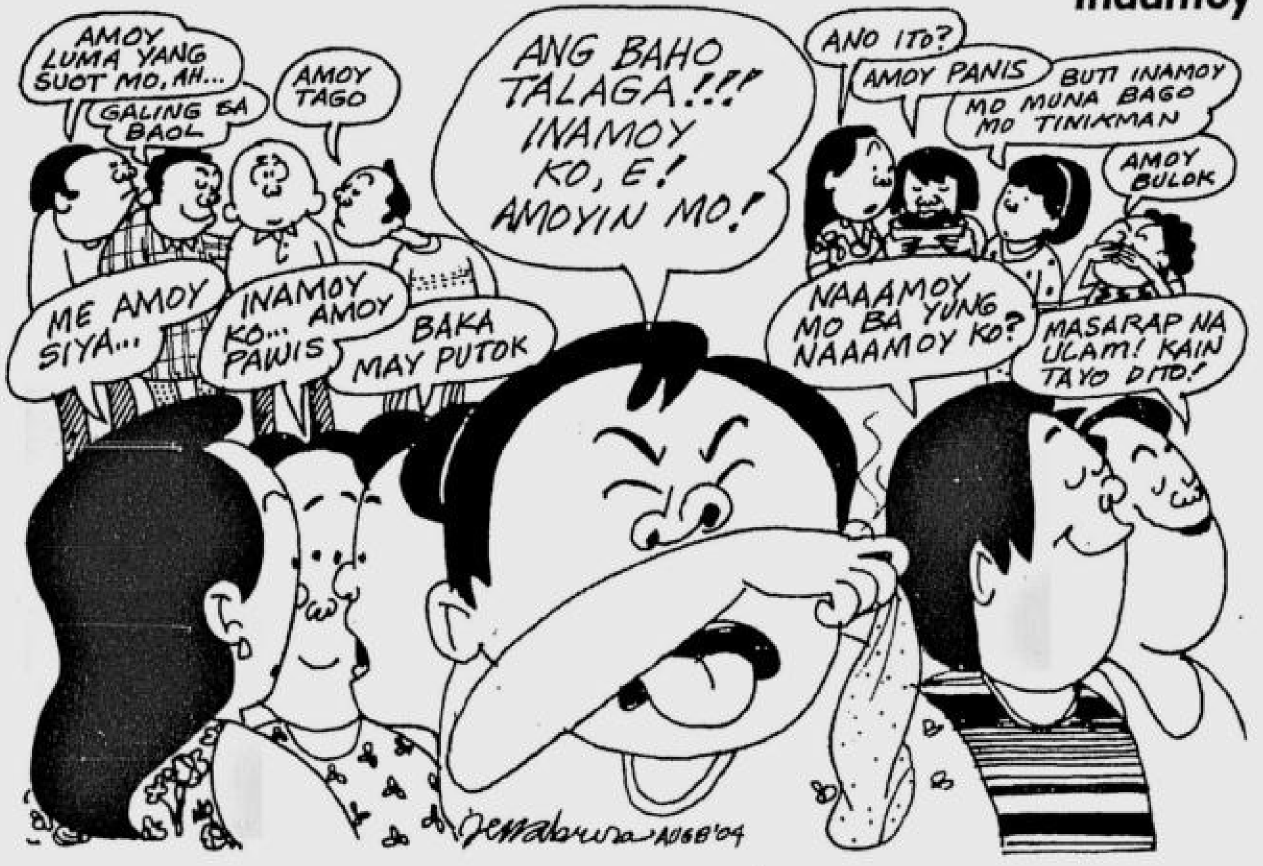
- Hard Rock Café (893-4662-65)
- Virgin Café : QC (926-7982)
- '70s Bistro: 46 Anonas St., QC (922-0492)
- Hobbit House: 1801 Mabini St., Malate, Manila (521-7604)
- Strumm's: El Pueblo, Ortigas (637-3009)

The SUNDAY INQUIRER MAGAZINE welcomes listings of events in and outside Metro Manila. Please send announcements at least two weeks in advance, and include contact numbers for inquiries on schedules

Pinoy Nga

By Jess Abrera

Inaamoy


AMOY LUMA YANG SUOT MO, AH...
GALING SA BAOL
AMOY TAGO
ANG BAHO TALAGA!!! INAMOY KO, E! AMOYIN MO!
ANO ITO?
AMOY PANIS
BUTI INAMOY MO MUNA BAGO MO TINIKMAN
AMOY BULOK
ME AMOY SIYA...
INAMOY KO... AMOY PAWIS
BAKA MAY PUTOK
NAAAMOY MO BA YUNG NAAAMOY KO?
MASARAP NA ULAM! KAIN TAYO DITO!
Jess Abrera AUG8'04

LoveNotes

By Joe D' Mango

Can This Be Love?

Did he ever love me or have I expected too much? Should I let him know what I feel for him?

Dear Joe,

I'm an 18-year-old college student at a state university in Manila. My friends always ask me why I still don't have a boyfriend and I tell them, "walang magkamali eh! *(nobody has asked me.)" But the truth is, I'm afraid, Joe. Afraid to fall in love and get hurt.*

I thought I could handle it until a friend introduced me to John. I just felt very comfortable with him. He would often call and text me and I was overwhelmed by the attention he gave me. He even calls me to say goodnight and calls me "beh." He's acting like a boyfriend, and I admit I really found a "boy friend" in him, Joe.

It was this way for a year, but we just talked on the phone because I've never met him. He has seen my picture in the Net, but I have no idea how he looks.

One night he asked me for a date and said he wanted to see me in person. But I refused. I didn't want to see him because I might completely fall for him. After that, I thought he would stop calling me, but he still did. He said he understands me. He even told me to take my time and that he'll wait for me.

But soon, his calls became less frequent. He said he got a job and was very busy. I started to miss him and his jokes. Once, he didn't call me for three weeks. I missed him but I did not make any effort to call him. I didn't want him to know I was missing him because he might assume I have feelings for him.

I got busy in school and I forgot him for a while until he called one night. I told myself I'll tell him that I want to see him. But he sounded different. He sounded excited. When I asked him why, he said, "Beh, may girlfriend na ako *(I have a girlfriend)!"*

I was shocked and was silent for a moment. Then he asked me, "Aren't you happy for me?" I answered, "Of course I am happy for you, congrats!" I tried to hide the pain I felt inside. I didn't know why I was hurt. I did tell him I wanted to see him. He told me how they met and the whole story. I can't stop my tears from falling. I was glad he couldn't see me.

I couldn't sleep that night, Joe. I know everything happens for a cause. But I don't know what this is. Did he come into my life only to teach me how to love? It really hurts terribly. This is what I'm afraid of. I thought I could control my feelings. I was wrong. Can this be love, Joe?

Since then, I've refused to answer his calls and text messages. I don't want to have a connection with him anymore. My friend is asking what happened to us. He told me that John is asking for me.

I'm keeping myself busy in school but I can't get him out of my head and heart. What should I do, Joe? Should I continue to avoid him? Did he ever love me or have I expected too much? Should I let him know what I feel for him? I am confused. Please help me, Joe.

Sincerely,
Sheng

Dear Sheng,

I have seen how most of us have wasted precious opportunities to tell the people we care about what we feel for them. Our fear gets the better of us and keeps us from expressing ourselves. We are often misunderstood because our actions do not speak of how we truly feel inside.

Sheng, I don't see any reason why you should avoid him. It is hard to know if he loved you but I am definitely sure that he liked you. Don't think that just because you're a woman you cannot tell him what you feel for him. You are friends and friends should be open and honest with one another.

Saying what you feel may not bring about a miracle but it will definitely free you from feeling bound and restricted. Often, some good is done just by letting a person know that we like them. And there is nothing wrong with liking someone. It is what we do or what we don't do when we like a person that dictates the fate that befalls us.

I hope Sheng's letter will remind us that honesty is the best foundation with which beautiful friendships are made. It is only when we speak out that people will truly understand us. And when they do understand us, we don't have to worry about being right or wrong because we know that we will be accepted not for what we stand for, but for the honesty that we have shown.

Sheng, don't end your friendship just because he's in love with another person. Don't be afraid to love and to show it. Be honest about what you feel and just let time take you to where your heart truly belongs. Q

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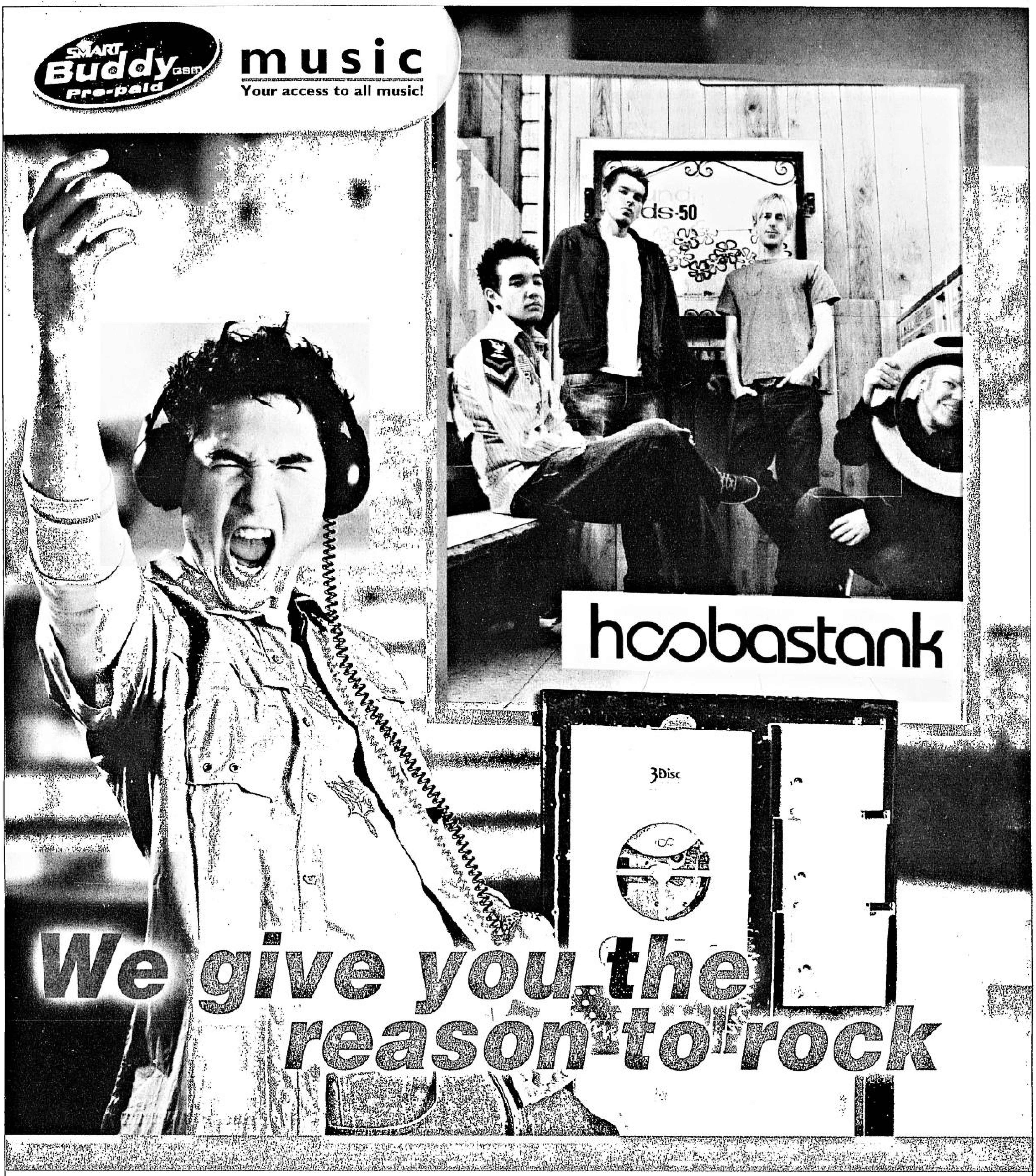
ds·50
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3Disc
We give you the reason to rock

SMART Buddy brings you another hot rock band – HOOBASTANK! See them live in Manila on August 17!
Download their images and tones for a chance to MEET THE BAND and win FRONT ROW CONCERT TICKETS.

Plus, be one of the lucky winners of Sony Ericsson T100s, T230s, T630s, or a Mini Apple iPod.

Text MUSIC to 209 now!

TONES

TITLE	ARTIST	KEYWORD
The Reason	Hoobastank	RT1
Same Direction	Hoobastank	RT2
Escape	Hoobastank	RT3
What Happened To Us?	Hoobastank	RT4
Lucky	Hoobastank	RT5
Did You	Hoobastank	RT6
My Happy Ending	Avril Lavigne	RT7
Breaking The Habit	Linkin Park	RT8
Ocean Avenue	Yellowcard	RT9
Woman	Maroon 5	RT10
This Love	Maroon 5	RT11
Mr. Clay	Bamboo	RT12
Vindicated	Dashboard Confessional	RT13
Ordinary	Train	RT14
Balisong	Rivermaya	RT15

For ringtones, text **TONE** <keyword> to **209**
For polytones, text **POLY** <keyword> to **209**

SPOTLIGHT

Get daily trivia about the band.

Sample:

SPOTLIGHT Hoobastank: Post-grunge quartet Hoobastank formed in the Los Angeles suburb of Agoura Hills in early 1994...

SPOTLIGHT Hoobastank: They were formerly known as HoobUstank, a little change was made because of legal issues and because their sound has changed.

Text **SPOTLIGHT** to **209**

PICTURE MESSAGES

hoobastank RP1
DOUG RP2
CHRIS RP3
DAN RP4
MARKKU RP5
DOUG RP6
DOUG RP7
CHRIS RP8

Text **PIC** <keyword> to **209**

LOGOS

hoobastank RL1
DOUG RL2
CHRIS RL3
DAN RL4
MARKKU RL5
hoobastank RL6
DOUG RL7
CHRIS RL8
DAN RL9
MARKKU RL10

Text **LOGO** <keyword> to **209**

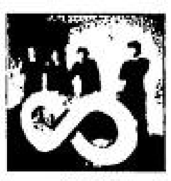
MMS IMAGES

RW1

RW2

RW3

RW4


RW8

Text **MMS** <keyword> to **209**

THEMES

HOOBASTANK1

HOOBASTANK2

HOOBASTANK3

To download Themes:
1. Visit the SMART WAP site at http://wap.smart.com.ph
2. Click on Amazing Stuff
3. Click on Handset Themes.
4. Click on HOOBASTANK.
5. Select corresponding phone model (i.e. N6600, P900, T610)
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For service updates, text THEMES to 211. P30 / download.

Hoobastank, "The Reason". Featuring the radio hit "The Reason" and also includes "Same Direction", "Disappear", and "Unaffected".

Powered by: Entertainment Gateway Group

In cooperation with: Universal MCA Music Inc

Promo is from July 24 to October 15, 2004.

For questions, comments, or concerns, you may call the SMART Hotline at 888-1111, send a text message to 888 (P1.00 per message sent in excess of the FREE TEXT allocation), e-mail us at customercare@smart.com.ph, or visit the SMART Wireless Center nearest you.

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Ex. SET GPRS <N6600>. To activate GPRS on your phone, text GPRS ON to 333.
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Ex. SET MMS <N6600>. To activate MMS on your phone, text MMS ON to 333.
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